COMMITTEE MEETING

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

PERMITTING AND ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

JOE SERNA, JR., CAL/EPA BUILDING

1001 I STREET

2ND FLOOR

COASTAL HEARING ROOM

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2006 10:00 A.M.

TIFFANY C. KRAFT, CSR, RPR CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER LICENSE NUMBER 12277

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APPEARANCES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ms. Rosalie Mulé, Chair

Ms. Cheryl Peace

BOARD MEMBER ALSO PRESENT

Ms. Margo Reid Brown

Mr. Jeff Danzinger

STAFF

Mr. Mark Leary, Executive Director

Ms. Julie Nauman, Chief Deputy Director

Mr. Michael Bledsoe, Staff Counsel

Mr. Elliot Block, Staff Counsel

Mr. Mark de Bie, Branch Manager, Permitting and Inspection Division

Ms. Donnell Duclo, Executive Assistant

Ms. Christine Karl, Staff

Mr. Howard Levenson, Deputy Director, Permitting & Enforcement Division

Mr. Wes Mindermann, Supervisor, Solid Waste Cleanup Programs Section

Ms. Diane Ohiosumna, Dianne

Ms. Virginia Rosales, Staff

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APPEARANCES CONTINUED

ALSO PRESENT

- Mr. Dwight Acey, Citizens Against the Dump
- Mr. Arthur Boone, Oakland Sierra Club
- Mr. Larry Burch, Landfill Development Manager
- Mr. Kevin Finn, Republic Services
- Ms. June Guidotti, Protect the Marsh
- Mr. George Guynn, resident of Suisun City
- Mr. Rus Miller, Enertech Environmental
- Mr. Luke Serpa, Assistant Public Utilities Director, City of Clovis
- Mr. David Tam, Sprawl Defense, Northern California Recycling

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1 PROCEEDINGS 1 2 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Good morning, everybody. Welcome to the December 4th meeting of the Permitting and 3 4 Enforcement Committee. We have agendas on the back table. 5 And if anyone would like to speak to an item, please fill 6 out a speaker's slip form and bring it up to Donnell and 7 you will have an opportunity to address the Board or the Committee. 8 Also I'd like to ask everyone to please either 9 turn off or put in the silent mode your cell phones and 10 11 pagers. And as you will note today, we will have a quorum 12 today. We just have two members to our Committee since 13 Board Member Wiggins is soon to be Senator Wiggins now. 14 With that, Donnell, would you please call the 15 roll? 16 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Members Peace? 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Here. 18 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Chair Mulé? 19 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Here. 20 21 And also we have Chair Brown with us and Board Member Danzinger. Thank you for being here this morning. 22 23 How about any ex partes? COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: No. I'm up to date. 24 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Up to date, and I am too. 25

- 1 With that, let's proceed to our Deputy Director's
- 2 report, Howard.
- 3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Thank you, Madam
- 4 Chair. I'm Howard Levenson, Deputy Director for
- 5 Permitting and Enforcement.
- 6 Is it Thursday afternoon yet? That concludes my
- 7 report.
- 8 (Laughter)
- 9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: I have a couple of
- 10 items I'd like to give you an update on.
- One is regarding load checking. And you'll
- 12 recall that at our last Board meeting down in Riverside
- 13 Matt Hickman from the Riverside County Solid Waste
- 14 Management Division which operates the County's public
- 15 landfills provided a presentation on their load checking
- 16 program.
- 17 I wanted to let you know we're planning a new
- 18 series of load checking classes beginning in January at
- 19 eight locations around the state. And some of those are
- 20 being finalized, but they're being posted on our events
- 21 calendar as they're finalized. And those classes will
- 22 involve LEAs, operators, and State staff. We periodically
- 23 offer load checking training. We've done it several times
- 24 in the past. And we find that the course content gets
- 25 modified frequently since the issue is so dynamic.

- 1 We have been discussing the Riverside situation
- 2 for quite some time, including meeting last year with the
- 3 Riverside County District Attorney who's been prosecuting
- 4 some of the cases involving hazardous waste at landfills.
- 5 And we also had Matt Hickman himself give the same basic
- 6 presentation that you heard in November at our LEA
- 7 conference in Monterey in August.
- 8 So we're designing this set of load checking
- 9 classes both to reiterate our traditional minimum
- 10 standards training and also to facilitate discussion among
- 11 LEAs, operators, and State staff about what can be done in
- 12 general to improve load checking programs. We are
- 13 including Matt Hickman as a case study presenter, and we
- 14 anticipate developing some sort of discussion item on this
- 15 for the Committee and Board in 2007.
- 16 Secondly, I wanted to talk about the financial
- 17 assurances for postclosure maintenance issue. As you
- 18 know, we held a workshop last Monday on an informal draft
- 19 of the regulations that would amend Title 27 postclosure
- 20 maintenance and Corrective Action Plan cost estimates and
- 21 related financial assurance demonstrations. As they're
- 22 currently drafted -- and these are strictly in the
- 23 informal phase of any rulemaking -- the regulations would
- 24 implement the direction that staff received from the Board
- 25 in July to fine tune certain aspects of the regulations

- 1 and also to extend the existing financial assurance
- 2 demonstrations beyond the normal or the current
- 3 requirement of 30 years.
- 4 The regulations would implement the initial
- 5 requirements of AB 2296 which was enacted this last
- 6 session, for example, on the use of contingency cost
- 7 factors and prevailing wages in developing cost estimate.
- 8 However, I think you're all aware there were some
- 9 stakeholders at the workshop who did express their belief
- 10 that part of the draft regulations related to extending
- 11 the existing financial assurance mechanisms beyond 30
- 12 years should be deferred until the Board-approved study on
- 13 additional mechanisms is completed. That's also required
- 14 by AB 2296 and that's to be completed by early 2008.
- 15 So at this point, staff will continue to solicit
- 16 comments from stakeholders and work with them on the
- 17 informal draft. And we anticipate bringing an item back
- 18 to the P&E Committee in March or so that outlines these
- 19 various issues raised by stakeholders, provides options
- 20 for the Committee and the Board, and provides staff's
- 21 recommendation.
- 22 Lastly, I did want to just let you know that as
- 23 part of the Executive Director's report on Thursday,
- 24 Mr. Leary, or if he's on jury duty I guess Chief Deputy
- 25 Nauman, will give you an update or Scott Walker will give

- 1 you an update on the BKK situation which Chair Mulé had
- 2 requested. And also we will have some information on the
- 3 recent Golden Guardian disaster planning exercise that a
- 4 number of Waste Board staff participated in.
- 5 That concludes my report. I'd be happy to answer
- 6 any questions.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Howard.
- 8 Do we have any questions? Board Member Peace.
- 9 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: On the financial
- 10 assurances, doesn't the Board already have the authority
- 11 to extend the financial assurances beyond the 30 years?
- 12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: That's our belief.
- 13 And that's the way the Board directed us in July. But the
- 14 legislation has some different kinds of requirements, and
- 15 we'll be bringing that back to you in March time frame for
- 16 further direction.
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I think the legislation
- 18 said that you need to start developing the regulations to
- 19 be done by '08. And to me that meant that things that are
- 20 already under our control that they believe the Board
- 21 already had the authority to do even without the
- 22 legislation was to go forward. And we would have those
- 23 regulations done by January '08.
- 24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: And we are proceeding
- 25 down the path of looking at the regulations. The

- 1 legislation speaks specifically to issues such as the
- 2 contingency costs and prevailing wages. And that is part
- 3 of the package that we have in the informal discussion
- 4 period right now.
- 5 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Okay. I think we still
- 6 need to keep moving forward. This has been a problem for
- 7 many, many, many years. I don't think any of us
- 8 want to keep putting this off. That was not the intent of
- 9 the legislation.
- 10 BOARD MEMBER BROWN: Howard, what does the
- 11 legislation say specifically regarding the study and what
- 12 is required of the study?
- 13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: I don't have the
- 14 language right in front of me, but the legislation refers
- 15 to looking at some of the health and safety risk factors
- 16 associated with landfills and exploring financial
- 17 assurance mechanisms that could deal with both postclosure
- 18 maintenance and corrective action at landfills.
- 19 BOARD MEMBER BROWN: So it's a risk assessment
- 20 study that will help put into place regulations for
- 21 postclosure maintenance 30 years or beyond 30 years.
- 22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: That study would be
- 23 used to look at that. This is the kind of discussion
- 24 we'll bring back to you in March to seek specific
- 25 direction. Right now, we do have the direction from the

- 1 Board in July which does include the issue of extending
- 2 the existing financial assurance mechanisms beyond 30
- 3 years. And at that point we were contemplating the study
- 4 that would look at additional financial assurance
- 5 mechanisms. So it will be a discussion item for your
- 6 direction.
- 7 BOARD MEMBER BROWN: So we'll discuss that in
- 8 March if we have any questions about how we determine how
- 9 much beyond 30 years we need to require financial
- 10 assurance?
- 11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Correct.
- 12 BOARD MEMBER BROWN: Thank you.
- 13 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: We're going to have this
- 14 discussion again when we do the governance stuff with
- 15 strategic directives, because I saw how that was changed
- 16 in the strategic directives. And that was not the purpose
- 17 of AB 2296 was not to postpone anything that we already
- 18 have the authority to do. So that's fine if you want to
- 19 have that discussion in March. I probably won't be here,
- 20 but I will be here this week when we have the discussions
- 21 and the governance thing on strategic directives, and I
- 22 will be bringing that up.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Any other comments or
- 24 questions? I'll defer my comments then.
- With that, let's proceed to the agenda, Howard.

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Item 1 is 1 2 Consideration of the Grant Awards for the Farm and Ranch 3 Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant Program for 2006 4 and '07. And Wes Minderman will make that presentation. 5 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Good morning, Wes. 6 (Thereupon an overhead presentation was 7 presented as follows.) SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR 8 MINDERMANN: Good morning, Ms. Peace and members of the 9 I understand you have a full agenda this morning. 10 11 So Item B before you this morning is just consideration of what staff feel are two relatively 12 straight forward grants under the -- I forgot the name of 13 the program. The Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and 14 15 Abatement Grant Program for the second cycle of fiscal year 2006-2007. 16 17 --000--SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR 18 19 MINDERMANN: I just thought I'd put just some quick information up there. There were some questions as we 20 21 were going through the item as to who we had awarded to and how we had done the previous fiscal year with respect 22 to the program. So I just thought I would throw this 23 24 slide up there to indicate who the previous grantees were and the amounts for fiscal year 2005-2006. And I just 25

- 1 wanted to indicate that not really for your information
- 2 today, but that we'll be putting this information in
- 3 future agenda item templates for the Board members'
- 4 reference as they review the items before them under the
- 5 Farm and Ranch Program.
- --000--
- 7 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 8 MINDERMANN: With respect to the current fiscal year, you
- 9 can see in our first cycle we awarded three grants. The
- 10 grants indicated in yellow on this slide are the ones
- 11 under consideration today, one to the Yuba County Resource
- 12 Conservation District in the amount of \$13,078 for one
- 13 site, and one to Imperial County in the amount of \$71,710
- 14 for two site cleanups.
- 15 The grants have been reviewed by a committee of
- 16 staff and have been found eligible, and staff are
- 17 recommending approval of the grants this morning.
- 18 And that really just concludes my presentation,
- 19 except to say that, you know, each application as always
- 20 has indicated they will include efforts to prevent waste
- 21 from being redeposited. The efforts include site security
- 22 in the form of fencing, berms, gates, and also posting of
- 23 signs and increased surveillance. I just wanted to point
- 24 that out for your reference. But staff are recommending
- 25 that the Board adopt Resolution 2006-215 and approve the

- 1 grants. Thank you.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Wes.
- 3 Do we have any questions for Wes? Board Member
- 4 Peace.
- 5 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: The site in the town of
- 6 Niland, is the only prevention measure they're putting in
- 7 place are dumping signs? Are they doing anything else?
- 8 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 9 MINDERMANN: I think that's what was proposed for the town
- 10 of Niland. They are going to be putting up no dumping
- 11 signs and no trespassing signs. I'm not sure the specific
- 12 reason on that unless the site for some reason can't be
- 13 fenced off or bermed off.
- 14 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Who's going to monitor
- 15 that to see if that is working?
- 16 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 17 MINDERMANN: Usually, that is the local enforcement
- 18 agency. So that would be our LEA down in Imperial County
- 19 who's been, as you can tell by the pervious slide, very
- 20 active in pursuing illegal dumping and enforcement and
- 21 cleanups in the county.
- 22 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: And then the site in the
- 23 town of Brawley, it said they've already installed a gate.
- 24 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 25 MINDERMANN: That's correct.

- 1 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Has that been working?
- 2 Do we know if that's deterred any of the --
- 3 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 4 MINDERMANN: I don't know the answer to that question
- 5 right now. I can get that by the Board meeting. But I
- 6 would assume it has been somewhat effective in that
- 7 they've had no further dumping on this site.
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Have we ever cleaned up
- 9 any of these sites before?
- 10 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 11 MINDERMANN: No.
- 12 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: This is not like the
- 13 second time we're cleaning up these sites?
- 14 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 15 MINDERMANN: No. Unfortunately, these are all new sites.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: They go from one site to
- 17 another.
- 18 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Clean up that one and
- 19 move somewhere else.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Wes, I had a similar question
- 21 on Imperial County. We did award 112,000, and I was just
- 22 curious as to how that project is coming along.
- 23 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 24 MINDERMANN: You know, I don't know the answer to that.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: And you know, it's not that we

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- 1 need this answer right now. But it would just be
- 2 interesting to get an update.
- 3 SOLID WASTE CLEANUP PROGRAMS SECTION SUPERVISOR
- 4 MINDERMANN: Sure. We can update that as part of our
- 5 presentation at the Board meeting.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Great. Thank you.
- 7 Do we have any other questions?
- 8 Okay. With that, do I have a motion?
- 9 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I'd like to move
- 10 Resolution 2006-215.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: And I'll second that.
- Donnell, would you call the roll?
- 13 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Members Peace?
- 14 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Aye.
- 15 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Chair Mulé?
- 16 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Aye.
- 17 We'll put that on fiscal consent.
- Thanks, Wes.
- 19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: We'll make a short
- 20 presentation at the Board meeting and include that updated
- 21 information.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Howard. Thanks,
- 23 Wes.
- Next item is Committee Item C.
- 25 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Committee Item C is

- 1 Consideration of a Revised Full Solid Waste Facilities
- 2 Permit for the City of Clovis Landfill in Fresno County.
- 3 And Virginia Rosales will be making this presentation.
- 4 And before she does that, I want to just make a couple
- 5 comments. First of all, to thank Virginia for stepping up
- 6 to do this. This was one of her counties. She's moved
- 7 over to a different section and branch in the Permitting
- 8 and Enforcement Division, but she's helping out to finish
- 9 up this particular permit.
- 10 I think you all are aware that this is a site
- 11 that has a long and complicated history. It involves a
- 12 long-term gas violation which was the subject of a state
- 13 audit, Bureau of State Audits report in 2000 and
- 14 subsequent Board regulations adopted after that. It also
- 15 has been a site that is -- was part of the LEA evaluation
- 16 that took place in the early 2000s. This was identified
- 17 as an issue. It has been identified as an issue before
- 18 that, but it was certainly identified in the LEA
- 19 evaluation. It was part of the LEA work plan subsequent
- 20 to that evaluation. And so we had been working with the
- 21 LEA and the operator both in terms of making sure that
- 22 there was compliance with the work plan on the part of the
- 23 LEA and trying to bring this site itself into compliance
- 24 through the revision of the permit and the establishment
- 25 of an additive gas control system.

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1 It's been a long history. I know there may be

- 2 questions about that history, but I want to say we're glad
- 3 we're at this point today where we finally have gotten
- 4 this site in a much better situation than it was even
- 5 two years ago, let alone ten years ago.
- 6 So with that, I'll turn it over to Virginia.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Good morning.
- 8 MS. ROSALES: Good morning, Madam Chair and
- 9 Committee, Board members.
- 10 The City of Clovis Landfill is located about
- 11 eight miles north of the city of Clovis. The landfill is
- 12 owned and operated by the City of Clovis. The facility is
- 13 not open to the public.
- 14 The proposed permit is to allow for the
- 15 following: Increase the facility boundary from 57 acres
- 16 to 210 acres; increase the waste footprint from 50 acres
- 17 to 76.6 acres; increase the vertical limit from 510 to 580
- 18 feet above mean sea level; increase the permitted tonnage
- 19 from 204 tons per day, averaged daily; 354 peak daily
- 20 tons; 4,700 maximum monthly tons; and 53,250 maximum
- 21 annual tonnage to 600 tons per day until 2010, and then to
- 22 2,000 tons per day; increase the traffic volume from 50
- 23 vehicles per day to 95 in-bound vehicles per day until
- 24 2010, and then to 148 vehicles per day; change the
- 25 estimated closure year from 2017 to 2047; increase the

- 1 hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday
- 2 including holidays, closed weekends, to 6:00 a.m. to 6:00
- 3 p.m. seven days per week; and then 6:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.
- 4 seven days per week for special maintenance and
- 5 construction activities. And then finally to continue the
- 6 landfill reconstruction project for the mining project.
- 7 The landfill has, as Howard indicated, a
- 8 long-term gas violation, but there is no imminent threats
- 9 to public health and safety and the environment. The gas
- 10 violation was first discovered during the process of
- 11 revising the permit in August 1996.
- 12 Since early 1997, the facility has been listed in
- 13 the inventory of facilities that violate State Minimum
- 14 Standards.
- In 1998, the operator began the project of
- 16 removing waste from the unlined portion of the landfill as
- 17 a way to address the landfill gas migration and the ground
- 18 water degradation. Initially, the mining project had
- 19 positive affects and there was a reduction in the gas
- 20 levels. The mining project has continued under a series
- 21 of notice and orders issued by the LEA. In the future,
- 22 once all the waste is removed from the unlined cell, a
- 23 composite lined cell will be constructed and waste
- 24 disposal will continue in the new cell. The mining
- 25 project is anticipated to be completed in 2009.

- 1 However, the City concluded that the mining
- 2 project alone would not fully mitigate the landfill gas
- 3 migration. A passive gas control system was installed and
- 4 in operation in early 2005, but shortly thereafter again
- 5 they concluded that the system in conjunction with the
- 6 mining project would not fully mitigate the landfill gas
- 7 migration.
- 8 As of October 2006, an active gas control system
- 9 was installed and is in operation at the site. With the
- 10 start up of the flare, the gas levels have dropped, but
- 11 are still above the regulatory limits. The operator is
- 12 currently in compliance with the Notice and Order issued
- 13 by the LEA and has made significant progress towards
- 14 compliance in this past year. The requirement of the
- 15 Notice and Order was to install the gas control system in
- 16 October 2006.
- 17 During the pre-permit inspection last month,
- 18 Board staff in conjunction with the LEA noted two
- 19 violations: The gas violation and a permit violation.
- 20 The Board's long-term gas violation regulations went into
- 21 effect last December and allowed the Board to make a
- 22 finding of consistency with State Minimum Standards when
- 23 acting on a permit if nine specific findings can be made.
- 24 In January 2006, the Board acted on the John Smith road
- 25 landfill permit and made a finding of consistency with

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1 State Minimum Standards thereby concurring in the issuance

- 2 of that permit.
- 3 Those nine findings are outlined in the agenda
- 4 item, and they can be made for the City of Clovis
- 5 Landfill. The permit violation will be corrected by the
- 6 issuance of the revised permit.
- 7 Board staff have determined that all the
- 8 requirements for the proposed permit have been satisfied.
- 9 Board staff recommends that the Board adopt Resolution
- 10 Number 2006-206 concurring with the issuance of the Solid
- 11 Waste Facilities Permit Number 10-AA-0004.
- 12 Here today to answer any questions you may have
- 13 are Tim Casagrande, Randy Reyes, Steve Crump representing
- 14 the Fresno County LEA, and Luke Serpa representing the
- 15 City of Clovis Public Utilities Department, the operator.
- 16 This concludes staff's presentation.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Virginia.
- Do we have any questions for staff or for any of
- 19 the LEA or the operator? Board Member Peace.
- 20 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I have lots of
- 21 questions. I don't care who I ask them of, but I have
- 22 lots of them. I have lots of question. I don't know --
- 23 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Go ahead.
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: We'll start with -- it
- 25 says there's 46 violations of State Minimum Standards and

- 1 45 permit violations just from '02 to '06. How many of
- 2 those were for daily cover and ADC?
- 3 MS. ROSALES: There were very few for the daily
- 4 cover and the ADC. Most of them were associated with the
- 5 gas violation.
- 6 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: So the gas violations
- 7 can be State Minimum Standards violations and permit
- 8 violations?
- 9 MS. ROSALES: The permit violation was because of
- 10 the mining project that had continued on.
- 11 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Okay. So once they put
- 12 in the active gas system, that only took a year to do that
- 13 and now everything is under control?
- 14 MS. ROSALES: Well, the levels are still not
- 15 below the regulatory limits, but they are coming down.
- 16 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: But they're under a
- 17 Notice and Order for ten years?
- 18 MS. ROSALES: They operated under a series of
- 19 Notice and Orders, yes.
- 20 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: As I'm reading this, I'm
- 21 just fuming inside. Because there were greenhouse gases,
- 22 contribute to the climate change. For them to say they
- 23 don't have any adverse effect to the environment is
- 24 ridiculous. But when I'm reading this, it says that there
- 25 were -- too much gas was being, you know -- coming from

- 1 the landfill and that we had asked them to install a gas
- 2 system in 1998. And then they said, no, we're going to
- 3 take the stuff out of the landfill, mine it out, and put
- 4 it somewhere else. And our staff said, well, no. We
- 5 really don't like that, because there's too many unknowns
- 6 with the project. So then they decided after that then
- 7 they would just buy some property. So it wasn't within
- 8 the Board's power then to say, no, there's too many
- 9 unknowns, and you're going to put in a gas control system?
- 10 That wasn't under our authority to do that?
- 11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Member Peace, this is
- 12 symptomatic of the situations at landfills where you have
- 13 a long-term gas violation. It's a complex situation.
- 14 There's not an exact science for how to determine ahead of
- 15 time what's the best system for solving a problem. So the
- 16 City started by trying to institute and complete this
- 17 reclamation project. Ultimately, that was not successful.
- 18 They looked at a passive system, a trenching system, that
- 19 didn't work and finally got to the point of installing an
- 20 active system.
- 21 Could any of the parties involved made these
- 22 decisions earlier? I think yes. We all could have
- 23 perhaps gotten to that point sooner.
- At this point, I'm not sure how to redress that
- 25 other than saying that we have been engaged in very

- 1 intensive discussions with the City and the LEA over the
- 2 last several years trying to move towards this active
- 3 system. It has been installed. As Virginia indicated
- 4 compliance, the gas levels are coming down. And it's
- 5 something that will take some time, you know, after the
- 6 system was in. And we expected to be in compliance with
- 7 the State minimum standard in the near future.
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I guess when I read
- 9 this, like I said, it makes me fume. It took ten years.
- 10 First they decided they'd do a reclamation. That didn't
- 11 work. Then they're going to buy the surrounding property.
- 12 And that didn't work. Then they're going to put in a
- 13 passive gas control system, and that doesn't work. For
- 14 ten years. And then all of a sudden we'll put in an
- 15 active gas control system in one year.
- 16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: And if there had been
- 17 an imminent public health and safety threat, this
- 18 situation would have been very different. And I think
- 19 either we or some other party would have taken a more
- 20 direct action.
- 21 They were continually evaluating this situation
- 22 and taking steps. I think in hindsight we can say that
- 23 some things should have been stopped earlier and moved
- 24 on to other phases earlier.
- 25 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Because ten years is a

- 1 little long. I guess that's what I'm upset about. Are
- 2 these some of the things that are going to be discussed at
- 3 the workshop this afternoon or --
- 4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: No. The workshop
- 5 isn't about the long-term gas violations. The workshop
- 6 this afternoon is on the application of existing landfill
- 7 gas monitoring regulations or requirements for closed
- 8 landfills to have the same requirements for active
- 9 landfills, regardless of whether there's a long-term
- 10 violation or not.
- 11 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Okay.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Are there any other questions
- 13 for staff?
- I guess I just have one question. I mean, I too
- 15 share Board Member Peace's frustration with this
- 16 particular situation. There's a number of issues that
- 17 come to my mind. But I just have a quick question for the
- 18 operator and the LEA, is when I read through this item, it
- 19 was my understanding that the mining of the unlined cell
- 20 was a two-year pilot. And I guess my question is why was
- 21 it continued -- allowed to continue for up until now? So
- 22 I mean, when you look at it, the mining started, what,
- 23 '97, '98. Here we are in 2006. So if someone wants to
- 24 come up and answer that, I would appreciate it. Thank
- 25 you.

- 1 MR. SERPA: My name is Luke Serpa. I'm the
- 2 Assistant Public Utilities Director for the City of
- 3 Clovis. I've been there about a year and a half. I'm
- 4 about the most senior management person involved in this
- 5 project. So we've had a bit of a turnover.
- The mining project was implemented to address the
- 7 gas issue, but also for other measures as well. The
- 8 general goal is to dig up all the old unlined landfill,
- 9 sort the waste, bury the waste on top of a composite
- 10 liner, then reline this area with a composite liner.
- 11 My predecessors, looking at the data -- and they
- 12 thought that was going to address the entire gas issue and
- 13 mitigate it all. It did at first, but as time went on,
- 14 the gas came back largely because the soil we were
- 15 separating out was still generating gas. That was
- 16 unforeseen.
- 17 Had they known then what we know now, they may
- 18 not have proceeded. But they probably still would have
- 19 proceeded with the mining project. I still think it's a
- 20 good project. The end result of this reclamation project
- 21 is we will have all the waste on a liner. I don't think
- 22 that's anything we're going to regret ten years from now.
- 23 It has taken longer. There was more waste there than we
- 24 thought. Production was not able to keep up with the
- 25 pilot study. The production rates we identified during

- 1 the pilot study we were not able to sustain once we
- 2 started production. The project has taken longer than
- 3 anticipated.
- 4 It hasn't mitigated all of the impacts we hoped
- 5 it would, but it is still a worthwhile project. It has
- 6 mitigated groundwater impacts. As a result, we will have
- 7 all of our waste on the liner when the site closes, which
- 8 I think makes us all rest a little better.
- 9 I understand your frustration at the time. I
- 10 think there has been a big turn around. Like I said, I've
- 11 been there a year and a half, and we have definitely
- 12 accelerated things. And I would hope that at least you
- 13 would take that into consideration, that this is the way
- 14 we're going to be moving forward here. We have installed
- 15 the gas system. We actually started the installation
- 16 process before the time line and the NOA required it,
- 17 because we saw it was going to be necessary. We
- 18 fast-tracked it. We did everything possible to get it in
- 19 and operational as soon as possible. We've permitted with
- 20 the Air Board for additional expansion capability so that
- 21 as we see needs to adjust this system to address problem
- 22 areas, or as the landfill grows, we can do it without
- 23 going back to the Air Board for a permit.
- Yes, there is a long history of compliance issues
- 25 here. If my predecessors had known then what we know now,

- 1 they probably would have done things differently. We know
- 2 where we're at now. We're moving forward from here, and
- 3 we plan to continue to do so.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you. I appreciate you
- 5 being here. I appreciate the LEA being here as well. I
- 6 appreciate your answer. It just sounds like it was one of
- 7 those situations where all I can say is I'm glad you're
- 8 there, because it seems like now things are on the right
- 9 track and you are doing all the right things and getting
- 10 the proper permits for the proper operation of this
- 11 facility. So I appreciate that. Thank you.
- 12 Any other questions?
- BOARD MEMBER DANZINGER: Yeah.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Board Member Danzinger.
- 15 BOARD MEMBER DANZINGER: I want to get a little
- 16 clearer on the time line. I know we can't be scientific
- 17 about this or precise. But when do we expect the gas to
- 18 be under control? I mean, I think you said near future or
- 19 something like that. Just curious what kind of time line
- 20 we're looking at.
- 21 BRANCH MANAGER DE BIE: If I may, as the operator
- 22 steps up again. Mark de Bie, Permitting and Inspection.
- 23 During the pre-permit inspection, there was some
- 24 assessment of the wells. And staff's observation
- 25 indicated that the readings we were finding was very

- 1 optimistic in that that system in place was very effective
- 2 and very optimistic about compliance being achieved in the
- 3 near future. It's a complicated site. Lots of different
- 4 factors. So we'll see how all those play out. But I'm
- 5 sure the operator can give you his point of view.
- 6 BOARD MEMBER DANZINGER: Thank you.
- 7 MR. SERPA: As Mark has indicated, we've only had
- 8 the system up and running for about six weeks, and we've
- 9 already seen some of the wells go to zero. There's still
- 10 others that have not dropped down to compliance levels.
- 11 There's some that are moving slowly, some that haven't
- 12 started to move yet. This is because of the geology and
- 13 the hydrogeology of the site, it's not going to be an easy
- 14 fix, but that's part of the reason we permitted additional
- 15 wells from the Air Board so that if we see areas that
- 16 aren't responding the way we'd like, we can quickly go in
- 17 and add another well without going back to the Air Board
- 18 to address problem areas.
- 19 As far as time line, I don't want to commit
- 20 months or whatever, but we are seeing some serious
- 21 progress. We've seen wells drop from 60 to 70 percent
- 22 down to zero in six weeks. We've seen a few wells that
- 23 haven't moved. So the system is working. Fine tuning it
- 24 is going to be a process that takes some time. And I'm
- 25 hesitant to give you a time.

- 1 BOARD MEMBER DANZINGER: I don't want to hold you
- 2 to anything. I don't know what near future means. Does
- 3 that mean by the end of the first stage? This permit is
- 4 like this two stage, you know, where it goes to a certain
- 5 tonnage until 2012 and then it ramps up dramatically until
- 6 the anticipated closure date. So I mean --
- 7 MR. SERPA: I would hope we are in compliance
- 8 well before that first phase in. I mean, I'm thinking
- 9 this coming calendar year. That's my gut instinct. We're
- 10 going to prosecute this until we achieve the desired
- 11 results at this point.
- 12 BOARD MEMBER DANZINGER: Okay. Thanks.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. Thank you very much.
- Do I have a motion?
- 15 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: As much as this thing
- 16 frustrated me and I wish that the City would have asked
- 17 for an active gas control system ten years ago, I'm glad
- 18 it is finally under control. So as much as this pains me,
- 19 I'm going to move Resolution Number 2006-206.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I'll second that.
- 21 Donnell, please call the roll.
- 22 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Members Peace?
- 23 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Aye.
- 24 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Chair Mulé?
- 25 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Aye.

- 1 And we will put that one on consent as well.
- Our next item is Committee Item D, Board Agenda
- 3 Item 3, Howard.
- 4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: This item is
- 5 Consideration of a New Full Solid Waste Facilities Permit
- 6 for the Enertech Environmental California, LLC, in San
- 7 Bernardino County. And Dianne Ohiosumna will give this
- 8 presentation.
- 9 I think what -- we understand there are some
- 10 questions about some of the policy implications around
- 11 this kind of situation involving biosolids processing.
- 12 And so what I've asked Dianne to do is give the
- 13 presentation on the permit itself for your consideration.
- 14 And then if you have questions about some of the policy
- 15 implications, either Elliot or myself or Mark can try to
- 16 address those.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. Go ahead. Thank you.
- MS. OHIOSUMNA: Good morning.
- 19 The proposed permit will allow the operator to
- 20 operate a large volume transfer/processing facility. It
- 21 will allow them to receive a maximum of 864 wet tons
- 22 daily, a maximum of 66 vehicles a day, and operate 24
- 23 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.
- 24 Board staff find that the LEA has made all the
- 25 necessary findings relevant to the permit. At the time

- 1 this item was prepared, Board staff had determined all but
- 2 two of the requirements for the proposed permit. Now
- 3 Board staff has made all of the required findings,
- 4 including the finding that the transfer/processing report
- 5 will allow the facility to comply with the State Minimum
- 6 Standards.
- 7 Board staff recommends that Board adopt Solid
- 8 Waste Facility Permit Decision Number 2006-209 concurring
- 9 with the issuance of Solid Waste Facility Permit Number
- 10 36-AA-0446.
- 11 Representatives from the San Bernardino County
- 12 LEA are here, and the operator is also here. That
- 13 concludes staff's presentation.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thanks, Dianne.
- Do we have any questions for staff?
- 16 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: The only question I have
- 17 for staff is that this was revised. Revised permit was
- 18 received on November 6th and again this last week. And I
- 19 want to make sure that our staff feels that they had
- 20 adequate time to review this.
- 21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: We have had adequate
- 22 time, Ms. Peace. And some of the reasons for the revision
- 23 were our questions back to the LEA and the operator about
- 24 some of the tonnage figures and trying to understand the
- 25 relationship between the wet tons coming forth and what

- 1 the peak and average limits would be. So yes, thank you
- 2 for asking that. And we have had adequate time. Thank
- 3 you.
- 4 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I have some other
- 5 questions just in general, like where are the biosolids
- 6 going now? And I don't know who is best to answer those.
- 7 MS. OHIOSUMNA: I'll ask the operator to come up
- 8 and answer that question.
- 9 MR. MILLER: Rus Miller with Enertech
- 10 Environmental. Sorry for the rough voice.
- 11 Biosolids today are handled in a variety of
- 12 methods. They are going to -- some go to landfills that
- 13 are appropriately lined and monitored. Some are going to
- 14 Kern County. That's getting a lot of press in some cases
- 15 where it's land applied, and farms that are especially
- 16 dedicated to using material and farming operations where
- 17 there's no contact with human food. Some are hauled to
- 18 Arizona for land applications on farming operations as
- 19 well. Some of that's turned into composting. That's
- 20 become more difficult in the L.A. basin because of air
- 21 quality issues.
- There's very limited market for compost. So
- 23 that's not -- can't clear very much volume that way.
- 24 Those are the three main methods. There is some very
- 25 small quantity that is going to Mitsubishi Cement in

- 1 Lucerne near Victorville where it's burned in conjunction
- 2 with their 400, 500 tons a day of coal.
- 3 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Are there other biosolid
- 4 processing facilities like yours?
- 5 MR. MILLER: There's a two-ton per day
- 6 demonstration unit in Atlanta.
- 7 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: But this is the first
- 8 one in California?
- 9 MR. MILLER: This is the first one. There was a
- 10 few of the technologies that are similar around the world.
- 11 But ours is patented and has a slight different approach
- 12 to doing it. This will be the first full-size one.
- 13 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Will the facility be
- 14 required to get an Air Board permit?
- MR. MILLER: We have all of our Air Board
- 16 permits. We have our water quality management permit.
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: You already have all of
- 18 them?
- 19 MR. MILLER: This is the last one.
- 20 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Great. After your
- 21 process, is there a residual left?
- MR. MILLER: We segregate the biosolids received
- 23 into its dry component, water component, gas component.
- 24 We destroy the gas in an RTO. We take the water and give
- 25 it back to the waste water treatment plant that we're

- 1 adjacent to, the city of Rialto, and they turn it into
- 2 water that's suitable to go into the Santa Ana River.
- 3 Then the solid material that is dry is going to Mitsubishi
- 4 Cement. That's our agreement right now. They'll use it
- 5 to displace coal that's railed in.
- 6 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: So the e-fuel that you
- 7 produce is used by cement kilns. Can it be used in any
- 8 other type of a --
- 9 MR. MILLER: Oh, absolutely. Part of my prior
- 10 experience is in biomass power plants. And because we're
- 11 a renewable fuel in accordance the California Energy
- 12 Commission determination, we can burn at any solid fuel
- 13 power plant. There are not very many solid fuel power
- 14 plants in the state of California, but the ones that are
- 15 closest to us are the proper design to burn this material
- 16 and, you know, capture the ash and for other purposes.
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Any other questions?
- 19 BOARD MEMBER BROWN: No, but thank you for all
- 20 the information. It's a great project.
- MR. MILLER: You're very welcome.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. I do want to make a
- 23 comment here, because when I've reviewed this item, I just
- 24 had the fundamental question of whether or not this should
- 25 even be coming to the Board for a permit. Based upon my

- 1 interpretation of statute section -- I think it's
- 2 4200(b)(2). It says a transfer/processing station where
- 3 the wastes are received, processed, but not intended for
- 4 disposal are exempt from our regulations. So I know that
- 5 I've had discussions with our legal counsel as well as our
- 6 staff about this, and I guess my main concern is as we are
- 7 looking to new and alternative technologies to address our
- 8 waste disposal needs and also our energy needs, I mean,
- 9 the lines on permitting seem to be coming blurred. So at
- 10 some point. I know we're going to need to re-examine our
- 11 regulations and have the larger discussion on the purview
- 12 of our authority for these types of facilities.
- But Elliot, maybe you can shed some light on how
- 14 you and staff came to the conclusion that this particular
- 15 facility should be permitted by the Board.
- 16 STAFF COUNSEL BLOCK: Sure. Let me take a quick
- 17 shot. And if there are any particular facts that are
- 18 relevant, Howard and Mark can chime in certainly.
- 19 But just in terms of the way the statutes and
- 20 regs apply to this facility as you correctly cited, we
- 21 have a statute, Public Resources Code Section 40200(b)(2),
- 22 that we sometimes refer to as an exception for recycling.
- 23 That particular statute years ago we recognize was fairly
- 24 subjective and difficult to figure out exactly when it did
- 25 or didn't apply. So some ten plus years ago we developed

- 1 what was originally called the two-part test for
- 2 determining what was recycling and what was out of our
- 3 jurisdiction. A couple years later, that was further
- 4 refined after some issues came up and is now the
- 5 three-part test. And the third part is the part that
- 6 involves if a facility is handling material that is
- 7 putrescible, at least one percent of the material that is
- 8 coming to it is putrescible.
- 9 In this particular case, because we're dealing
- 10 with biosolids which is identified in statute as solid
- 11 waste and is in fact putrescible, that's how it ends up
- 12 within our purview. I think as we have discussed, that
- 13 three-part test is a creature of regulations. And it's
- 14 always within the purview of the Board to go back and have
- 15 us take a look at that and see if those lines need to be
- 16 adjusted, tweaked, revised, that sort of thing.
- 17 As you sit here today with this particular permit
- 18 in front of you, it does fit squarely within those
- 19 regulations. Your decision today wouldn't prohibit the
- 20 Board down the road if it looks at these issues from
- 21 revising how that looks and making different decisions
- 22 down the road. This is -- as we all know, the diversion
- 23 area is pretty dynamic. And it seems like every month
- 24 there's a new process that comes through. So that's
- 25 certainly within your purview.

- 1 I don't know if you guys wanted to add anything.
- 2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Yeah. I wouldn't add
- 3 anything other than to point out that the rational for
- 4 this placement of this permit as a processing facility is
- 5 included in the agenda item on page 3 -- can't read
- 6 without my glasses -- where it does cite the fact that the
- 7 biosolids are a solid waste and discusses the three-part
- 8 test as the way to implement that 40200. So for purposes
- 9 of this permit, staff is very comfortable in this
- 10 approach. If it's your desire as the sense of the
- 11 Committee or the Board that you would like us to look at
- 12 this issue as a policy item, we'd be happy to start
- 13 exploring that.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I don't know that we're ready
- 15 to direct you to do that today, Howard. But again, I just
- 16 feel that we're going to have to look at this as these new
- 17 technologies come on line. Because you know again, I look
- 18 at this -- this is not intended for disposal. Whereas, we
- 19 do not regulate POTWs, and that is intended for disposal.
- 20 And we're not involved with that regulatory process. So
- 21 again, there's some conflicts out there, and we're going
- 22 to need to have these larger issue discussions, policy
- 23 discussions, and come to some resolution.
- 24 We do have a speaker, Mr. Arthur Boone. Please
- 25 state your name for the record.

- 1 MR. BOONE: Name is Arthur Boone from Oakland.
- 2 I was involved in a number of squabbles with the
- 3 legal staff back in the earlier part of the '90s. I think
- 4 it's valuable just to have a little background on this.
- 5 There's people in the audience who can correct me if I
- 6 make a mistake.
- 7 At the point that we originally required permits
- 8 from transfer stations, the recycling community came and
- 9 said and put that section in the law the next year. The
- 10 ISRI people were responsible for it I think. Basically
- 11 said if the principle purpose of a facility is not to deal
- 12 with solid waste that it should be exempt from regulation.
- 13 I think that's really the test.
- 14 Staff in early '90s tried to come through with a
- 15 lot of stuff about 10 percent residue and all that stuff.
- 16 And I think that was never the purpose of the law. I
- 17 think you're on a good track there in trying to keep the
- 18 regulations out of what are essentially separated
- 19 materials destined for other ends other than disposal. I
- 20 appreciate that. Thank you.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Mr. Boone.
- 22 Are there any other questions or comments? Do I
- 23 have a motion?
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: No. I just want to say
- 25 here we're taking a solid waste and making a renewable

- 1 fuel out of it. Sounds like a conversion technology to
- 2 me, and I think it's wonderful, personally.
- 3 But biosolids are a solid waste. And I think
- 4 biosolids as they come into this facility could pose a
- 5 threat to the public health and safety if they're not
- 6 properly handled. So that's why I feel real good this
- 7 permit is here before our Board so we know they will have
- 8 some oversight on what is going into the facility. And
- 9 I'm very glad to hear they have their air permit and their
- 10 water permit. So this should be a well regulated facility
- 11 that should be protecting that, should have no problem,
- 12 you know, protecting the public health, safety, and the
- 13 environment. I think that's what we are here to do. I
- 14 think this is great. And I would like to move Resolution
- 15 2006-209 Revised.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I'll second that.
- 17 Donnell, call the roll.
- 18 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Members Peace?
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Aye.
- 20 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DUCLO: Chair Mulé?
- 21 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Aye.
- We'll put that one on consent.
- 23 And our final item of the day is Committee Item
- 24 E, Howard.
- DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Thank you, Madam

- 1 Chair.
- 2 This item is Consideration of a Revised Full
- 3 Solid Waste Facilities Permit for Potrero Hills Landfill
- 4 in Solano County. Christy Karl will be making this
- 5 presentation. So we'll just jump right into it.
- 6 MS. KARL: Good morning, Madam Chair and members
- 7 of the Committee. The item before you considers a revised
- 8 full solid waste facilities permit for Potrero Hills
- 9 Landfill in Solano County, which is owned and operated by
- 10 the Potrero Hills Landfill, Incorporated, a subsidiary of
- 11 Republic Services.
- 12 The operator is proposing to make the following
- 13 changes to the landfill operations:
- 14 To count for purposes of the permitted tonnage
- 15 limit only the waste materials that are disposed. This
- 16 will continue to be 3,400 tons per day averaged over any
- 17 seven days and a peak of 4,330 tons per day; to limit the
- 18 acceptance of biosolids over 50 percent moisture to 250
- 19 tons per day averaged over seven days. This is inclusive
- 20 of the total disposed material limits.
- To change the hours of operation from 4:00 a.m.
- 22 to 1:00 a.m. seven days a week to 24 hours a day, Monday
- 23 through Friday, and 20 days hours a day Saturday and
- 24 Sunday. And the site will be closed from 12:00 a.m. to
- 25 4:00 a.m.

- 1 The hours the site is open to the public are not
- 2 changing.
- 3 All three of these changes were fully described
- 4 and analyzed in the environmental impact report for the
- 5 project.
- 6 Staff has made all of the findings necessary for
- 7 concurrence in the permit. However, litter violations
- 8 were noted during the pre-permit inspections in October
- 9 and November. Off-site litter was noted on the property
- 10 that the operator has indicated they cannot access.
- 11 The operator has demonstrated a good faith effort
- 12 to address litter migration issues and is discussing
- 13 further litter control options with the LEA and may be
- 14 able to provide an update on these efforts today.
- 15 Therefore, staff finds that operator meets the
- 16 requirements of the litter standard and recommends
- 17 concurrence in the proposed permit. Staff will update the
- 18 agenda item in time for the Board meeting on Thursday.
- 19 And this concludes my presentation.
- 20 The LEA and operator are both present if you have
- 21 any questions.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Christy.
- We have several speakers. So I'm going to ask
- 24 everyone to -- I'll call your name. I'm going to ask if
- 25 you could please limit your comments to five minutes. Our

- 1 first --
- 2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Excuse my, Madam
- 3 Chair. I'm sorry to interrupt. Before you get to the
- 4 speakers, if we could add a little bit more to the staff
- 5 presentation from Mr. de Bie.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Sure.
- 7 BRANCH MANAGER DE BIE: Thank you, Mark de Bie
- 8 with Permitting and Inspection.
- 9 Relative to the violation on litter, as Christy
- 10 indicated, there's discussions ongoing between the
- 11 operator and the LEA relative to some proactive measures
- 12 they could do to prevent litter in the future, which are
- 13 factoring into Board staff's determination relative to the
- 14 current state of compliance. And I understand the
- 15 operator is going to be on the list to make presentations,
- 16 and so I would like to reserve staff's final determination
- 17 relative to the litter compliance until after the operator
- 18 indicates the status of those conversations.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. That sounds fine.
- 20 Good.
- Okay. Our first speaker is Dwight Acey.
- MR. ACEY: Sometimes it's not --
- 23 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Please state your name for the
- 24 record.
- MR. ACEY: My name is Dwight Acey. Sometimes

40

2 with Citizens Against the Dump Expansion. I along with my

it's not good to have a last name that begins with A.

- 3 neighbors live within two miles of this expansion.
- 4 I'm going to read a statement, and then I'll give
- 5 you a copy of it.

- 6 As citizens who are at grave risk to any
- 7 environmental impacts, we feel it is important for the
- 8 public and the California Integrated Waste Management
- 9 Board to be aware of the compliance history of the Potrero
- 10 Hills Landfill.
- 11 According to the agenda item, the Board last
- 12 approved a solid waste facilities permit for the Potrero
- 13 Hills super-garbage dump, which it's known as in my
- 14 neighborhood, in December of 1996. The agenda item lists
- 15 the compliance history for the last five years, 2002
- 16 through 2006.
- 17 We request that your staff be directed to provide
- 18 a review of the compliance history, including any State
- 19 Minimum Standards and permit violations so that the public
- 20 and Board members have a complete picture of the
- 21 landfill's compliance history prior to the Board making
- 22 its upcoming decision.
- 23 According to the agenda item on page 1, the local
- 24 enforcement agency submitted a proposed permit on October
- 25 20th of 2006. We would like to ask if they -- we'd like

- 1 to ask, have there been any changes to the proposed permit
- 2 since it was submitted to the Board? If so, what changes
- 3 have been made?
- 4 At the last Permitting and Enforcement meeting
- 5 that we attended in Fairfield, your staff summarized the
- 6 results of their pre-permit inspection. However, none of
- 7 the photos were shown. The public would like to see the
- 8 photos for the inspection that were conducted on September
- 9 20th of 2006, as well as those of most recent
- 10 inspections -- the most recent inspection on September
- 11 25th. We request they be included in your record. We
- 12 also would like to know what kind of sludge is approved
- 13 for alternate daily cover. For example, is it a Class A
- 14 biosolid or industrial sludge, et cetera. How much ADC
- 15 can be used at the Potrero Hills Landfill on a yearly
- 16 basis.
- 17 The biosolids matter is something that deeply
- 18 troubles us since we live so close to it, and we live in a
- 19 very windy city.
- I was distressed by a situation with a neighbor
- 21 who I met at the public library who I've seen from --
- 22 actually, I've known him for many years. And I see him
- 23 every so many months, he and his son usually around the
- 24 mall area, his twelve-year-old son. He told me a week ago
- 25 that he was just in anguish and incredible emotional pain

- 1 because he had to take his son to the hospital because he
- 2 was suffering from shortness of breath. He took him to
- 3 Fairfield, and they said that they didn't think there was
- 4 anything major wrong with him other than he needed to take
- 5 his spacer because he has asthma.
- 6 Two days later, the boy came to him in early
- 7 morning and said, "I'm having trouble breathing, Dad." He
- 8 passed out in the kitchen. His dad rushed him to the
- 9 nearest hospital, which is Travis, which is right across
- 10 the road from the landfill. When he arrived there, the
- 11 doctor told him, "There's nothing I can do for him. He's
- 12 dead."
- 13 Our county has the highest asthma rate of any
- 14 county in the state of California. And that was very
- 15 troubling to me. It was very painful to me.
- Our group has struggled against this landfill
- 17 expansion for two years. We've given up time from work
- 18 and other activities. We've given up our own personal
- 19 money for this. And we were hoping to stop this before
- 20 now. We slowed it down a little bit it seems, but we
- 21 haven't stopped it. And we realize that all we can do is
- 22 raise the concerns and the warnings of what is ahead in
- 23 the future.
- 24 They're talking here about expanding from 23
- 25 million cubic yards to 83 million cubic yards in the BCDC

- 1 permit. They want to be open in this particular permit
- 2 for 24 hours. They're changing a lot of what's going on
- 3 at this landfill. It's going to impact not only the
- 4 species in the marsh, but it's going to impact us. It's
- 5 going to impact our children. And I don't know how much
- 6 more we can take of this.
- 7 You know, again, it's very hurtful to me to hear
- 8 a twelve-year-old child is dead. I'm not saying the
- 9 landfill caused that. But what I am saying is that we are
- 10 importing garage from 150 miles. And that garbage and
- 11 that daily sewage sludge will have and continue to have a
- 12 worsening and more aggravating effect as time goes on.
- 13 With that, I want to thank you for an opportunity
- 14 to speak on behalf of the citizens and the residents near
- 15 the landfill.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Mr. Acey.
- 17 Our next speaker is George Guynn.
- 18 BOARD MEMBER DANZINGER: Could I ask a quick
- 19 question just of the Committee and the staff? At the
- 20 beginning of Mr. Acey's comments, he referenced permit
- 21 expansion, an expansion of the landfill. The Committee is
- 22 not being asked to consider a permit that constitutes an
- 23 expansion of this facility, is it? It's our definition of
- 24 what is waste coming in; right?
- DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: That's correct,

- 1 Mr. Danzinger. The proposed permit deals with the tonnage
- 2 limits per day and the hours of operation. There's no
- 3 lateral or vertical expansion that is included in this
- 4 particular permit.
- 5 BOARD MEMBER DANZINGER: Okay. I'm just
- 6 suggesting that, you know, yeah, that will be an issue at
- 7 which time whenever it comes to the Board. It might be a
- 8 different story. But for today to keep, you know, honesty
- 9 and candor and consistency, I think it would be best if
- 10 people did not keep coming up talking about an expansion
- 11 of this landfill, because that's not what's being
- 12 deliberated on today.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Board Member
- 14 Danzinger.
- Go ahead, sir.
- MR. GUYNN: Good morning, Madam Chairman and
- 17 Board members. My name is George Guynn, Jr. I'm a
- 18 20-plus resident of Suisun City. I live about three miles
- 19 from the landfill.
- 20 You may not call it a strict expansion, but when
- 21 you increase the hours and you ignore counting certain
- 22 types of dumping that were counted before, from a
- 23 layperson's point of view, it certainly is an increase.
- 24 It's certainly going to be an increase of the traffic
- 25 that's going down Highway 12.

- 1 So I picture last night of a garbage truck that
- 2 lost the rear wheels. It was an 18-wheeler. It had a
- 3 container type load on the trailer that I guess was just
- 4 coming from the dump. Any time that you increase the
- 5 activity, you increase the chances of having some sort of
- 6 accident. And if you lose the rear axle of the trailer --
- 7 this time there wasn't an overturnage or extreme damage,
- 8 but you're increasing your chances of having that sort of
- 9 thing the more activity you have. And this is one problem
- 10 with the changes that are being considered with the
- 11 permit.
- 12 Another part is the plastic bags and other stuff
- 13 that comes off of the trucks. I personally have seen up
- 14 to ten bags come off a truck at one time which I reported.
- 15 The landfill has had 20 years to do something about
- 16 eliminating this problem, and they still haven't done it.
- 17 How many more years do they need? Do they need two or
- 18 three lifetimes to resolve the problem? It seems to me
- 19 that picking up the problem is not a solution. The
- 20 solution is don't have the litter problem in the first
- 21 place. And if they can't do that, then maybe they don't
- 22 need the permit until they can resolve the problem.
- 23 Also going to the 24 hours is going to have an
- 24 impact in my belief on the marsh, how again animals sleep
- 25 if there's going to be lights going all the time. Also

- 1 what about the ground water? I'm sure there must be some
- 2 leakage from at least the early part of the landfill,
- 3 because there wasn't even a liner in that. I believe
- 4 there's been some leakage from liner that was later
- 5 installed. Until those kinds of problems are resolved,
- 6 again, I don't think they should be granted a permit.
- 7 There's just a ton of issues that the landfill has had
- 8 plenty of time to address. And they're still saying give
- 9 us a little bit more time or just don't worry about this.
- 10 We'll take care of it.
- 11 I think that if Board Member Peace was worried
- 12 about ten years for this other organization, that you're
- 13 really going to be dismayed with 20 years. That's
- 14 ridiculous. They should have addressed these problems a
- 15 long time ago. And I'm really perplexed that something
- 16 hasn't been done about it already.
- 17 Thank you very much for letting me speak. Thank
- 18 you.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Mr. Guynn.
- 20 Our next speaker is June Guidotti.
- 21 MR. GUIDOTTI: Margo Reid Brown and Board
- 22 members, as you know, I'm June Guidotti. And I reside at
- 23 3703 Scally Road in Suisun, California. My family owns
- 24 152 acres which is buffer within the secondary Suisun
- 25 Marsh, and our land is zoned for agriculture use.

- 1 The land has been in my family for 90 years. We
- 2 are the closest residents to both the closed Solano
- 3 Garbage Company and existing Phase I Potrero Hills
- 4 Landfill.
- 5 I have a few questions on my procedures for the
- 6 Committee and for the Board members, and then I will
- 7 provide you with my requests, comments, and questions.
- 8 Meeting questions:
- 9 Will testimonies be allowed at both the
- 10 Permitting and Enforcement Committee meeting on December
- 11 4th as well as the Board meeting on December 7th, 2006?
- 12 Will the public be allowed to submit additional
- 13 written comments prior to the December 7th, 2006, Board
- 14 meeting?
- 15 As Pat Wiggins was elected to the State
- 16 Legislature, is she still a member of the Board?
- 17 If she's no longer a member of the Board, how
- 18 does that effect the voting of the Committee as well as
- 19 the Board?
- 20 If there are five Board members, how many votes
- 21 are needed to approve or deny the proposed permit?
- Do you expect this item to be voted on on
- 23 December 7th, 2006, at the Board meeting?
- 24 Requests:
- 25 After several trips to your facility file room

- 1 and to review public records and several attempts to
- 2 review the documents provided to me by the County, it
- 3 appears many changes have been made to the 1.5 project
- 4 that was considered at the October 10th, 2006, Permitting
- 5 and Enforcement Committee meeting. As most of us in the
- 6 public, we are not engineers or solid waste professionals.
- 7 It would be helpful if your staff and the LEA and the
- 8 operators summarized the major revisions that have been
- 9 made in the proposed permit and the joint technical
- 10 document under the closure and postclosure maintenance
- 11 plan since the previous Committee meeting.
- 12 I have questions on the proposed permit, the
- 13 agenda item, the Resolution, in addition to the verbal
- 14 answers I received at the Committee meeting. I request a
- 15 written response from the Board to each of the following
- 16 questions, as the notes on the top of your meeting
- 17 transcripts states they are not approved by accuracy.
- 18 Proposed permit. Please verify that the landfill
- 19 will not be open 24 hours per day and will continue to
- 20 record tonnage figures per the 1996 permit requirements
- 21 until the landfill operator receives all the regulatory
- 22 approvals from BCDC, Regional Water Quality Board, the Air
- 23 District, Corps of Engineers, Fish and Wildlife, and then
- 24 other regulatory agencies as conditional in the proposed
- 25 permit.

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1 The LEA has previously indicated to BCDC that the

- 2 proposed permit has this condition. The proposed permit
- 3 set a disposable limit for tonnage that exceeded 50
- 4 percent moisture. This is a new requirement not found in
- 5 the 1996 permit. The proposed limit is 250 tons per day.
- 6 How much moisture content sludge has been
- 7 disposed of in the landfill in the past five years?
- 8 How was the limit of 250 tons per day decided?
- 9 How will the operator monitor an incoming load of
- 10 sludge to determine whether or not the sludge is less than
- 11 or more than 50 percent moisture?
- 12 Has the Regional Water Quality Board reviewed and
- 13 commented on the 250 tons per day?
- 14 And is the landfill permitted by the Regional
- 15 Board to accept liquid waste?
- Section 16, self-monitoring item number 6 reads
- 17 as follows: "Log nuisance complaints including the time,
- 18 source, name of the company, commercial source, type of
- 19 feedstock. Nuisance condition, i.e., odorous, wind-blown
- 20 litter, others. Final disposition of loads, i.e.,
- 21 disposal of odorless, rejected, et cetera.
- 22 Questions and comments:
- What is meant by feedstock?
- 24 Should this be changed to the type of waste?
- In addition, this monitoring condition appears to

- 1 mix nuisance complaints with receipt of unacceptable
- 2 loads. Clarification and separate monitoring conditions
- 3 should be identified for each within the permit.
- 4 In the log of nuisance complaint identified in
- 5 Section 16, self-monitoring, Item Number 6, a different
- 6 log than the log of special unusual occurrence requirement
- 7 of Title 27 CCR 2005 10(c) Section 17a.5.
- 8 Agenda item. In the agenda item, one, it states
- 9 that the LEA submitted a proposed permit on October 26th,
- 10 2006. It is my understanding that this proposed permit
- 11 has been revised several times since October 26th, 2006.
- 12 When was the proposed permit in the agenda item received
- 13 by the Board, as it's not stamped?
- 14 Resolution 2006 2-16 question: The Resolution
- 15 states the operator submitted an amended application for a
- 16 revised solid waste facility permit to the LEA on October
- 17 26th, 2006. When did the Board receive an amended
- 18 application?
- 19 By amending the application, does this mean an
- 20 amended application or an amended application package?
- 21 Please add the date of the receipt of the
- 22 proposed permit to the Board's Resolution and whereas
- 23 paragraph number three.
- 24 Will the Board be certifying the 2005 final EIRs
- 25 house number 2006-032112 that was previously certified by

- 1 the Solano County Board of Supervisors for the Solano
- 2 County use permit and marsh developer permit on September
- 3 13, 2005?
- 4 The Resolution states the Board staff has
- 5 evaluated the proposed permit and application packet for
- 6 consistency with the standards adopted by the Board. The
- 7 Resolution is missing the whereas find that and usual
- 8 follows the staff evaluation, whether the Board finds that
- 9 the facility does or does not meet the State Minimum
- 10 Standards. This finding should be added to the
- 11 Resolution.
- 12 Litter. Litter is routinely visible apparent on
- 13 all property surrounding the landfill, including Highway
- 14 12, a scenic highway. The litter creates an adverse
- 15 aesthetic impact to the Suisun Marsh. The Suisun Marsh
- 16 Preservation Act does not allow the approval of a project
- 17 that creates an adverse aesthetic and ecological impact to
- 18 wildlife and habitat of the marsh. Unfortunately, so far
- 19 there has been limits politically during the CEQA process
- 20 to allow the marsh -- to follow the Marsh Protection Act.
- I have stated to the Board years ago as well as
- 22 recently that litter on my fence and on my property has
- 23 been an ongoing nuisance from the landfill. Historically,
- 24 as the working face has moved, litter has followed onto my
- 25 property. Litter has also increased over the years since

- 1 recycling operations were added to the landfill.
- 2 Currently, litter on the south portion of my
- 3 parcel is from the landfill disposal operation and gets
- 4 deposited on high wind days. Photographs published in an
- 5 article in the Contra Costa News on November 26, 2006,
- 6 shows litter in this area.
- 7 Recently, someone has trespassed on my parcel --
- 8 a portion of this on this portion of my parcel, because
- 9 most of the litter has been removed. And I did not pick
- 10 it up. I believe the litter on the front of my parcel is
- 11 coming from the road and recycling area. I believe that
- 12 the number of vehicles bringing recycling to the landfill
- 13 has been less over the last month or two and the litter
- 14 accumulation on this portion of my parcel is less than
- 15 normal.
- 16 Your staff should be able to verify my
- 17 observations are correct from the landfill records. The
- 18 effort of the landfill operator is not implementing an
- 19 on-site source control that rather off-site litter pick
- 20 up. Litter is not controlled at the source. And with the
- 21 increase of hours of operation by four hours per day, that
- 22 potential for more litter will increase.
- 23 The proposed permit before you should be denied
- 24 as inspection reports for this landfill shows a chronic
- 25 pattern of litter issued demonstrating that the operator

- 1 is unable to control litter at the source as required by
- 2 the State Minimum Standards. The State Minimum Standards
- 3 are indeed minimum standards, and the LEA and the Board
- 4 must consider establishing maximum standards for this
- 5 site, as well as require an enforcement of the litter
- 6 standards of the LEA or discertifying of the LEA. The
- 7 Board should not accept years of areas of concern.
- 8 Finding of the LEA litter at the landfill. Prior
- 9 to approval of the proposed permit, I request that the
- 10 Board review all inspection reports since the original
- 11 permit of the Potrero Hills was issued. You will be
- 12 surprised to see how your staff has done their job.
- 13 It's my understanding that the Board issued a
- 14 State Minimum Standard litter control during the
- 15 pre-permit inspection conducted in September 2006 for
- 16 Potrero Hills landfill. And the LEA did not issue a
- 17 similar violation. What is the reason for the difference?
- 18 Why did the Board take enforcement after
- 19 noting -- why didn't the Board take enforcement after
- 20 noting the violation?
- 21 Why hasn't the LEA or the Board taken enforcement
- 22 action in the last 20 years on the chronic litter
- 23 situation on Potrero Hills?
- What is the Board's enforcement policy regarding
- 25 chronic violations of State Minimum Standards?

- 1 Doesn't State Standards allow the Board to take
- 2 enforcement action if the LEA doesn't?
- 3 I'm also formally requesting that the Board's LEA
- 4 evaluate section staff review of the LEA's inspection
- 5 performance.
- 6 Land use: At the October 10th, 2006, Permitting
- 7 and Enforcement Committee meeting, I stated your staff
- 8 noted in the September 22nd, 2006, letter to Terry
- 9 Schmidtbauer, LEA, that while Ms. Narcisa Untal, Senior
- 10 Planner, make a statement that the site is consistent with
- 11 the County's General Plan, she did not provide
- 12 documentation to verify her conclusion, as it is your
- 13 staff that must make the finding of consistency. And I
- 14 request that the Board obtain the documentation from the
- 15 County that provides consistency with the General Plan and
- 16 recommends that Board obtains a legal description of the
- 17 record.
- 18 Was documentation and the General Plan reference
- 19 document on page number or legal description provided to
- 20 the Board in the amended application packet?
- 21 Odor: The use of biosolid sludge as alternative
- 22 daily cover is creating a health and safety issue for my
- 23 family and for me. I'm concerned about the health effects
- 24 to the landfill workers who smell the odor all day long.
- 25 Odor coming from the landfill is particularly bad at

- 1 night, and the flies and the mosquito population on my
- 2 property is unsanitary. In addition, the air quality
- 3 permit states the landfill is to use ash or soil as daily
- 4 cover. Thus, the proposed permit violates the air quality
- 5 permit. Biosolid sludge should be covered immediately and
- 6 the Board should not allow the use of it as alternative
- 7 daily cover. A research study is needed to determine if
- 8 health, safety, and environment is being maintained and if
- 9 the material is truly functioning as ADC as intended.
- 10 It has been reported to me recently that raw,
- 11 untreated sewage sludge may be coming into the landfill
- 12 without the operator's knowledge. Several drivers have
- 13 spoken to our concern about hepatitis. What source of
- 14 testing laboratory analysis on one site's load check
- 15 method are the generator or landfill operator employing to
- 16 ensure that the raw sewage is not entering that landfill?
- 17 Conclusion: Enclosed is a letter I have
- 18 submitted to the Board and Larry Burch for the record.
- 19 This letter responds to Richard Covington's December 1st,
- 20 2006, telephone call and the CWMB and the LEA's request to
- 21 allow the operator to collect litter on my property. The
- 22 letter stated that my property -- this letter states my
- 23 property is private property and that the CWMB and the LEA
- 24 cannot base their decision to approve a solid waste
- 25 facility permit on me giving permission to the landfill

- 1 operator for the pickup of landfill litter on my property.
- 2 It is the responsibility of the operator to take care of
- 3 the litter at the source of the litter generation and the
- 4 LEA and the CWMB's responsibility to see that the operator
- 5 complies with the State Minimum Standards.
- In closing, I'm opposing to the proposed project
- 7 and urge the Board to deny the proposed permit because the
- 8 operator continues to piecemeal this project.
- 9 I have told Larry Burch for years that the impact
- 10 of people walking on my property, the grass is how I pay
- 11 my taxes. Continued vehicles stomping the grass down,
- 12 invading my property, this is not the answer, picking up
- 13 the litter.
- 14 I don't have to tell you this, but my attorney
- 15 files papers again the 5th, tomorrow. The litter is still
- 16 on my property. My granddaughter Saturday sprayed it with
- 17 orange paint. Each day -- because the judge wants to know
- 18 how much litter is coming off of your property. He wants
- 19 to know what the minimum standards is. This is one of the
- 20 things that's going towards the judge. And so we've had
- 21 to monitor daily how much litter by different color spots
- 22 on the paper. So there is quite a bit of litter. I think
- 23 on the front field my granddaughter just caught 200
- 24 pieces, counted 200 pieces on Saturday on the 33 acres,
- 25 for which is really minimum for what's usually there at

- 1 this time.
- 2 Thank you. I would like to see to it that Mark
- 3 de Bie, Howard, Keith Roberson, and Larry get a copy of
- 4 the documentation that I had submitted. Larry Burch's
- 5 letter that without your permission to recover the litter
- 6 from your property, it is a situation beyond our control.
- 7 This has been going on for 21 years. Thank you.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, June. We do have a
- 9 copy of your comments. I have a written copy of your
- 10 comments and questions. I just want to answer one.
- 11 Obviously, yes, testimony is allowed today. And I believe
- 12 testimony will be allowed at the full Board meeting under
- 13 public comment. It depends on the outcome of the vote
- 14 today whether or not this is heard at the full Board.
- MS. GUIDOTTI: Thank you.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: And the other questions -- you
- 17 have a lot of questions here that need to be answered. So
- 18 we'll make sure that staff does get a copy of this and can
- 19 get back to you.
- MS. GUIDOTTI: Thank you.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: You're welcome.
- Next speaker is Mr. Arthur Boone again. I'd like
- 23 to ask that you limit your comments to five minutes
- 24 please. Thank you.
- MR. BOONE: My name is Arthur Boone. I'm a

- 1 member of the Sierra Club Bay Chapter, the four chapters
- 2 of the Bay Area. I'm a member of their Solid Waste and
- 3 Recycling Subcommittee, part of the Conservation
- 4 Committee.
- 5 One of our concerns always is that garbage be
- 6 buried as close as possible to the place of generation.
- 7 There's no virtue in trucking garbage anywhere. And the
- 8 Solano Landfill has basically become a regional landfill,
- 9 because they have consistently had lower charges than
- 10 other landfills have. So now we're seeing last year or
- 11 the year before we had 120,000 tons of garbage from San
- 12 Jose trucked through Alameda and Contra Costa County to be
- 13 buried in Solano. And I have here a little sheet that
- 14 basically explains some of the finances. There's a \$13 a
- 15 ton difference in fees that are charged in San Jose versus
- 16 the fees that are charged in Solano. You multiply that
- 17 \$13 times 25 tons which is what you could put in a big
- 18 truck, and if you can find some guy who's willing to take
- 19 a load of garbage from San Jose to Fairfield and come back
- 20 for \$325 bucks empty, then you give the garbage to him.
- 21 That essentially is what has happened.
- We have been trying to get the support of the
- 23 people of the San Jose elected officials on this issue.
- 24 They are seeing a serious erosion in the fees. The reason
- 25 they have five fees in San Jose is that's how they pay for

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1 their recycling programs and all this kind of stuff. When

- 2 this stuff leaks out, it basically weakens their ability
- 3 to operate programs.
- 4 As a citizen in Alameda County, in 1990, I was
- 5 part of the group that increased the landfill fees in
- 6 Alameda County by \$6 a ton. We did that with the
- 7 citizens' initiative. We changed the Altamont Landfill
- 8 from being a regional landfill to being essentially a
- 9 county-only landfill.
- 10 And I think we're all past the point where having
- 11 landfill capacity is a good thing. Those of you who think
- 12 about tourist destination, landfills and recycling are
- 13 competing with each other, just like Maui and Kaui are
- 14 competing for your vacation dollar. And those of us who
- 15 like recycling, who believe in it, we want to see
- 16 landfills as expensive as possible. We want to see them
- 17 as difficult to access as possible, because we know
- 18 ultimately it will discourage their use.
- 19 We have seen a very interesting figure I'd like
- 20 to give to you. For 30 years in California, there was no
- 21 net decrease in the per pack consumption of cigarettes.
- 22 From 1955 until 1985, the doctors all knew smoking was bad
- 23 for you, and yet there was no change in the consumption of
- 24 cigarettes on a per capita basis. From 1985 when we
- 25 started putting those ads on the buses -- you remember

- 1 that? Half a face and half a skeleton and started banning
- 2 indoor smoking, we now have a 44 pack per person
- 3 consumption of cigarettes. We've decreased the use of
- 4 cigarettes by over 70 percent on a per capita basis in the
- 5 last 20 years. That's because finally government started
- 6 taking it seriously.
- 7 I believe that's where we are in landfills. I
- 8 believe we are beginning to come to the point where we
- 9 really say it's not good to have extra capacity.
- 10 Ten years ago, I told this Board let's try to ration
- 11 capacity according to what the per capita disposal should
- 12 be in California rather than as much as the landfill
- 13 operators asked for. We didn't do it then. We probably
- 14 won't get it there. But we're moving in that direction.
- 15 I'm concerned because of the fact that Solano
- 16 County has shown its ability and its willingness to sell
- 17 its valuable tipping space to other counties for free.
- 18 Eight-five percent of the garbage in this county comes
- 19 from out of county. I believe that's the highest figure
- 20 of any landfill in the state. Of course, when L.A. County
- 21 starts going to Imperial County, that might be a little
- 22 different, but at this point that's the truth. So I would
- 23 discourage you -- I would encourage you not to collaborate
- 24 with the hauler that's asking for these changes. Thank
- 25 you very much.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you.
- 2 Our next speaker is David Tam.
- 3 MR. TAM: Thank you, Chair Mulé and other
- 4 Integrated Waste Management Board members. My name is
- 5 David Tam. I'm here today -- I'm a director of the
- 6 Northern California Recycling Association, as is Arthur
- 7 Boone, who has spoken before me. And I concur in his
- 8 comments particularly. But today I'm representing the
- 9 nonprofit that is helping on the financing of the
- 10 litigation against the Phase 2 expansion, which its
- 11 acronym is SPRAWLDEF. And it stands for Sustainability
- 12 Parks Recycling And Wildlife Legal Defense Fund. And def
- 13 in the rap music means death. So we're going to try to be
- 14 militant in this in future litigations.
- 15 But this is a different strategic arena from the
- 16 court and the question whether or not Solano County has
- 17 complied with the California Environmental Quality Act.
- 18 As I understand it, your Board and staff understand you
- 19 have a fairly narrow statutory obligation to oversee
- 20 things here. And I'm afraid you're being put in a
- 21 situation where you're dodging an iceberg. You're the
- 22 Titanic, but you've got sort of an open drain.
- 23 And Mr. Boone has sort of described it in his
- 24 comments about importation from other counties. And you
- 25 find yourselves powerless to do anything about the fact

- 1 that that drain remains open and you're basically draining
- 2 away two things: Present permitted capacity that was
- 3 intended to be for central Solano County and it is used in
- 4 an emergency by Sonoma County and non-emergency by coastal
- 5 Contra Costa County, and then you have the other 70
- 6 percent of the tonnage that's coming in that's quite
- 7 unnecessary and quite in conflict with, for example, the
- 8 State's new commitment to be a leader in discouraging
- 9 greenhouse gas emission.
- 10 So I would just urge you to be giving some
- 11 attention at your legislative arena level to getting some
- 12 broadening of your statutory powers to take cognizance of
- 13 essentially market defects. This is a spill over or
- 14 economic externality. It's basically a cheap landfill
- 15 that's beggaring its other neighbors.
- I did send the preliminary calculation based upon
- 17 the 2005 tonnages by jurisdiction that are on your
- 18 website, and I aggregated them by counties. There are
- 19 about 13 other counties. And I haven't completely
- 20 finished this, but I'll just read in the county tonnages
- 21 at this point as I discern them: Alameda, 11.2 -- 11,170
- 22 tons; Contra Costa 258,982 tons; Marin County, 44,569
- 23 tons; Mendocino County about 69,000 tons; Napa, 6,211;
- 24 Sacramento -- some of this isn't coming through, something
- 25 I'm going to be talking about in a minute, which is your

- 1 Cordelia intersection you're impacting -- 65, almost
- 2 66,000 tons; 50,000 tons from San Mateo County; about
- 3 70,000 tons from outside of San Jose and Santa Clara
- 4 County. That's the longest haul. Solano County itself is
- 5 taking in about 165,000 tons. Sonoma County, this was
- 6 last year, 152,000 tons. And of course, that's going to
- 7 ramp up by a factor of two to two-and-a-half with Sonoma
- 8 County being shut down. Small amount from Yolo County.
- 9 That was basically all the tonnage last year. And the
- 10 tonnage is ramping up this year by another two or 300,000
- 11 tons.
- 12 This is not a local landfill anymore. And
- 13 basically, they're basically exporting the problem that we
- 14 thought had been solved 10 to 15 years ago in Contra Costa
- 15 County of not having Contra Costa County wastes going into
- 16 a wetland. The Regional Water Quality Board 22 years ago
- 17 wisely told Contra Costa County, you've got five more
- 18 years to get an Upland Canyon landfill. It took them
- 19 eight years. I can feel the anxiety of Mr. Gordon and his
- 20 clients about how long it takes to get a new landfill
- 21 capacity permitted in whatever county, no matter how
- 22 agreeable it might be, to augmenting its general fund
- 23 revenues. But it's basically I think the Board should be
- 24 resolving itself very soon to do something about this
- 25 situation rather than widening the drain plug, which is

- 1 what you're doing. A semantic clarification and then a
- 2 couple other points.
- 4 BOARD MEMBER DANZINGER: Yes.
- 5 MR. TAM: I agree it's not an expansion. It's an
- 6 extension of two years. I hope that people would concur
- 7 that that's basically what it is. We understand it's a
- 8 recalculation of what's possible if certain things are
- 9 permitted, which we don't think should be the case.
- 10 Two or three other points. One, the attorney
- 11 Amber Vierling made a very important piece of testimony at
- 12 your hearing, which you kindly conducted in Fairfield,
- 13 which there wasn't, in her judgment, a sufficient CEQA
- 14 documentation for you to proceed to approve a permit.
- 15 And in particular, Supervisor Duane Kromm from
- 16 Solano County pointed to the situation -- and I think it
- 17 occurs on about page 56 of the transcript -- of a lot of
- 18 traffic going through the 80, 680 interchange at Cordelia.
- 19 Now, the permit conditions that are being relaxed here
- 20 basically allow traffic pretty much about 160 to 168 hours
- 21 a week. So with the 30 or 40 percent ramp-up in traffic,
- 22 that's basically what we're seeing this year, the year
- 23 2006 for which the statistics are not in yet, you may be
- 24 basically approving without adequate CEQA analysis an
- 25 exacerbation of your regional traffic situation with

- 1 respect to a very important intersection, 680 and 80 at
- 2 Cordelia junction.
- 3 Also I would like to know for the record -- and
- 4 perhaps somebody from Solano County Environmental Health
- 5 could provide this information in today's hearing. Is the
- 6 regulatory and oversight philosophy of the local
- 7 enforcement agency to regulate the tonnages for what's
- 8 proposed to be Phase 1.5 on a daily basis or basically a
- 9 seven-day rolling average basis? Is it both ways or one
- 10 way? I hope I'm stating that in a way that's precise, but
- 11 I don't have my notes in front of me. But the point
- 12 basically is you've got potential for traffic problems at
- 13 very inconvenient times.
- 14 Finally, I would like to go back to -- because I
- 15 can see people's eyes frankly glazing over as I ran these
- 16 tonnages by you.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Not mine.
- 18 MR. TAM: I do intend to expand this into written
- 19 testimony that I will provide as quickly as I can today or
- 20 tomorrow, by the way. But the other part of the numbers,
- 21 the breakdown -- and by the way, I think it's not 85
- 22 percent. It's about 87 -- 82 percent is imported from
- 23 outside of Solano County according to the way I did my
- 24 math on my little cell phone calculator. Nonetheless,
- 25 it's basically five out of six tons coming in are coming

- 1 in from outside this area from the central and
- 2 southern/northern part of California. It's not what
- 3 you're supposed to be seeing. It's not congenial with all
- 4 the counties in California attaining their AB 939
- 5 diversion goals. And that is because, as Mr. Boone
- 6 alluded, many of the other counties have landfill-based
- 7 fees which they use to ramp up their recycling programs.
- 8 To be charitable, Solano County's fees are modest
- 9 and they're too modest. Supporters of this landfill say
- 10 that they're doing a good job for us and we've got cheap
- 11 garbage rates. That's not helpful. That's really not
- 12 helpful to your mission to make sure that AB 939 is
- 13 attained in all the counties. And you have now basically
- 14 committed to eventual zero waste California. This is a
- 15 move in the wrong direction.
- And let me give you what it is. The record, as
- 17 we understand it for our trial, is that Solano County
- 18 takes in about \$7 million a year in general fund revenue
- 19 one way or another from this landfill operation. Other
- 20 counties that are giving to this basically collect between
- 21 three and \$20 a ton. Santa Clara and Alameda County on
- 22 the high end of the range I don't know how much. But
- 23 basically for about 700,000 tons a year at between 10 and
- 24 \$12 a ton average that's collected in the other counties,
- 25 we're looking at about \$6 million a year in revenue loss

- 1 to recycling programs in other counties. I will try to
- 2 quantify that so it's just not conjectural, which is what
- 3 it is now. I'll try to get that done in time for
- 4 Thursday's meeting. But frankly, this is an unregional
- 5 policy on the part of Solano County. It needs to be
- 6 discouraged by your Board in whatever legal way that you
- 7 can. And it's essentially beggaring their neighbors.
- 8 Thank you.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Mr. Tam.
- 10 Our next speaker is Kevin Finn.
- 11 MR. FINN: Good morning. My name is Kevin Finn.
- 12 I'm the Area President for Republic Services. Potrero
- 13 Hills Landfill falls inside my area.
- 14 First, I'd like to thank the Board for taking the
- 15 time to consider our modification request and especially
- 16 the staff. I know staff has spent a lot of time looking
- 17 at this.
- 18 If I can take a couple of minutes explaining what
- 19 we're doing and then another couple of minutes talking
- 20 about litter. We've focused our modification requests on
- 21 basically two items. One is to increase our operating
- 22 hours to 24 hours, and the other is to recognize the
- 23 volume that's coming in differently.
- 24 The 24-hour request gives us the opportunity to
- 25 move a lot of these trucks out of the daytime traffic and

- 1 bring them into the facility in the evening. This does a
- 2 couple of things. It gets them out of the rush hour
- 3 traffic. It saves fuel. And it gives us the opportunity
- 4 to better manage all the operations that are going on
- 5 inside the landfill.
- 6 The second request that we're looking for is that
- 7 some of the designation of tons coming in will be changed
- 8 to not count towards our cap. And as we've heard earlier,
- 9 we have a recycling operation. And every ton that comes
- 10 in and is managed inside a facility -- and what we do is
- 11 take the local trucks that service the local communities,
- 12 they deposit that recycling material inside our plant on
- 13 site, and then we load it in the larger trucks that are
- 14 heading back that's basically back haul. We save three
- 15 trips heading into a processing facility. Well, that
- 16 material counts towards our cap. And, obviously, it comes
- 17 on the site. We manage it, package it, put it on a
- 18 trailer, and send it out. So it's not going into the fill
- 19 at all.
- 20 We have a variety of other material that comes
- 21 in: Green waste, which is managed into compost. We have
- 22 C&D and wood loads which are chipped. A lot of it is sent
- 23 off site. This material I don't think was really ever
- 24 intended to count towards the cap since we manage it, and
- 25 a lot of it goes outside the site.

- 1 We have litter. And litter is a problem at
- 2 times. We have two ways, two separate ways that we
- 3 address these litter issues. On the site itself, we have
- 4 wind day programs. We watch the weather. The site
- 5 managers, everybody is acutely aware of the issues on
- 6 heavy wind days. So we manage the traffic inside the
- 7 site. The angle that we dump the trailers at, we've
- 8 installed portable wind fences that surround the whole
- 9 face as we're managing the dumping face. And we put in
- 10 wind fences all along the site.
- On extreme wind days when the gravel material and
- 12 especially these plastic bags -- they're like parachutes.
- 13 And we bring in staff, sometimes up to 20 people a day,
- 14 that will go off site and gather it. So within 24 hours,
- 15 any material that leaves the site, with one notable
- 16 exception, is picked up and brought it.
- 17 The other litter issue is on the trailers and
- 18 trucks that deliver. We tried to address that last year.
- 19 We have addressed it. You know, we instituted a policy
- 20 where if you come to dump at our facility without a tarp
- 21 or a secured tarp, you're fined and you're warned. And
- 22 just in the last year, we've applied this fine 630 times,
- 23 I believe.
- 24 We have put staff out on the road on Route 12
- 25 three times a week. We pick up the litter on that road.

- 1 On the access road coming into the site, we maintain that
- 2 every day. We've been working with the local authorities
- 3 on different programs and we'll address those a little bit
- 4 later. But one of them, if you've been out to the site --
- 5 our access road is long. If you come off of Route 12, you
- 6 have a long drive into the site. And we recognize that.
- 7 By the time you get to the site, if you had an issue with
- 8 your tarp, you've already lost something. So we're
- 9 discussing a program now where we will move the inspection
- 10 for the tarp and secure loading further down the road so
- 11 we catch all this before it moves.
- 12 Thank you. Do you have any questions?
- 13 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Mr. Finn.
- 14 BOARD MEMBER BROWN: I think we do. Don't go
- 15 anywhere. Do you want to take all testimony before
- 16 questions?
- 17 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: We have one more speaker so --
- 18 BOARD MEMBER BROWN: Okay. I have a question
- 19 regarding the litter program, so we can go back.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Go ahead.
- 21 BOARD MEMBER BROWN: If it's the law that
- 22 everybody cover their loads, how can you have 630 load
- 23 violations for people with debris blowing? Just a
- 24 question. I mean, 630 is an enormous number of trucks
- 25 coming to your facility.

- 1 MR. FINN: Well, they're not all trucks. A lot
- 2 of them are local citizens load up in the back of a pickup
- 3 and drive in.
- 4 BOARD MEMBER BROWN: Can you give us -- I'm
- 5 trying to get to the bottom of this. Because if you said
- 6 ten or twelve a year, I'd say okay. You know, that's
- 7 okay. Six-hundred-thirty in my mind is an enormous
- 8 number. And I don't know why you continue to take trucks.
- 9 After two violations, why don't you tell them you won't
- 10 take their garbage? It's jeopardizing your operation.
- 11 MR. FINN: Well, we do. We do. If we have a
- 12 number of violations on the same company, we would do
- 13 that.
- 14 But I can provide to the staff who we've been
- 15 addressing these issues with. But for the larger haulers,
- 16 that's not an issue. Because they can't risk their
- 17 privileges coming in. For the one time and for the
- 18 citizens and the cash people that come in and use that
- 19 during the day, that's where we have most of our issues.
- 20 And we'll address that and they know next time if they
- 21 come in that they'll run into the same problem.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Mr. Finn, I know that at a
- 23 number of landfills as you're approaching the landfill,
- 24 there are signs at other facilities. And I can't recall
- 25 if there's one at this particular facility that say all

- 1 loads must be tarped.
- 2 MR. FINN: There is.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: And then under penalty of
- 4 whatever, it cites the State statute.
- 5 MR. FINN: There is a sign.
- 6 BOARD MEMBER BROWN: So how are you addressing
- 7 the 630 fines that you issued? I mean, what are you
- 8 putting into place to decrease the number of people
- 9 entering your facility?
- 10 MR. FINN: Part of our plan has always been and
- 11 what's going take that into temporary and one-time users
- 12 and repetitive users, our bigger accounts -- very seldom
- 13 do we have an issue with our regular accounts, especially
- 14 with the larger trucks because it's a big risk for them if
- 15 they come in and there's a tarping issue. It's not always
- 16 it's not tarped. Sometimes there's a tear in the tarp.
- 17 And inspector will see them and write them up for that.
- 18 They're not going to risk their dumping privileges for not
- 19 tarping the load.
- 20 But the problem is with the smaller, the one-time
- 21 and temporary, the local people that come in -- they do a
- 22 clean up and throw it in the pickup truck and drive it in,
- 23 we do have a sign at the entrance. But at that point, a
- 24 lot of them will still drive up and try to get through.
- 25 At that point we will address the issue with them.

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1 BOARD MEMBER BROWN: By Thursday, I'd like to see

- 2 a percentage of how many are actual citizens and how many
- 3 are registered haulers that are coming in that you're
- 4 fining. Because I don't think 630 fines by your facility
- 5 in litter control issues for covering loads is adequate.
- 6 I don't think what you guys are doing is adequate if
- 7 there's 630 fines. I want to see how many are
- 8 self-haulers and how many are registered companies.
- 9 MR. FINN: Fine. And we can have that for you.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you.
- 11 Our final speaker is Larry Burch.
- 12 MR. BURCH: Thank you, Madam Chair, members of
- 13 the Committee. My name is Larry Burch. I'm the Landfill
- 14 Development Manager for Potrero Hills Landfill. I guess
- 15 my comments can answer some of the questions that have
- 16 been raised in the previous testimony.
- 17 Regarding the uncovered loads, I think one of the
- 18 reasons we have a high number of people who come to the
- 19 landfill one time a year and don't know about having a
- 20 covered load is the city of Fairfield and city of Suisun
- 21 have free dumping privileges given to every resident. And
- 22 you have a coupon. They can come to the landfill and
- 23 unload those things they can't get out through the normal
- 24 collection system. And so somebody will go down and rent
- 25 a U-Haul trailer, hook it behind their pickup truck, and

- 1 come out, and find out they should have had a covered
- 2 load.
- 3 And one of the things that we're looking at is as
- 4 Kevin mentioned is instituting on the high wind days
- 5 moving our person from in the scale house out a mile away
- 6 next to the highway and have those people fine them. But
- 7 basically it pays for the tarp that we give them. They
- 8 cover the tarp -- or the load as they come in. And we at
- 9 least stop the litter from being lost along our haul road.
- 10 We really don't have control to tell somebody to do that
- 11 at their house. It's the CHP could be out there writing
- 12 these inspections and violations. But we are looking at
- 13 adding that as an additional high wind control measure.
- 14 So I think the number of violations is there's a lot of
- 15 single use. They come out one time a year, and they
- 16 didn't realize that they had to have a covered load.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Larry, have you thought about
- 18 maybe having that printed on the coupon so that people
- 19 know that when they do their cleanup they know ahead of
- 20 time that they're supposed to cover their load?
- MR. BURCH: I think that's in there.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I think that would be a good
- 23 public ed tool.
- 24 MR. BURCH: It's on there now, and I believe that
- 25 our advertisement in the telephone book, covered loads

- 1 required.
- 2 But we're trying to do this outreach. And maybe
- 3 as an outcome of this meeting today we can tell the
- 4 newspaper one of the issues that was discussed here was
- 5 the number of loads that are coming out to the landfill
- 6 and are not covered. Maybe that then can be a message
- 7 that the readers pick up on.
- 8 On the issue of CEQA and our ability to have
- 9 everything studied adequately, this issue before you
- 10 today, as Kevin mentioned, is two things: The tons that
- 11 are counted for landfill disposal and then the 24-hour
- 12 operation.
- 13 The CEQA was actually done twice on the 24 hour
- 14 and what counts back in 1996. The action for the original
- 15 permit talked about the Cordelia intersection and the
- 16 traffic. And so did the 2005 CEQA work. Actually, we're
- 17 not changing any traffic. Back there in 1996 it was set
- 18 at a thousand vehicles per day. That's not being changed.
- 19 So there should not be any concern about extra amount of
- 20 new traffic coming to the site. We're operating at about
- 21 maybe 70 percent of our capacity at this time. And so
- 22 yes, there will be another 30 percent of traffic that's
- 23 above today's rate, but that's been approved now for
- 24 ten years. We just have not fully exercised that original
- 25 allotment.

- 1 I'm not sure about this wetland situation out in
- 2 Contra Costa County. I think that's an issue that's
- 3 really Phase 2. We are not in the wetlands. We're up in
- 4 the highlands around that is surrounded by wetlands.
- 5 This idea of reserving capacity locally, this is
- 6 something that was discussed at the local level in the
- 7 Board of Supervisors meetings. They actually have a
- 8 special clause in our use permit that says we give
- 9 local -- first choice of disposal to the waste from the
- 10 local areas. But it was ten years ago, actually 1989, the
- 11 Board of Supervisors went on record saying this was going
- 12 to be a regional landfill. It's going to serve Contra
- 13 Costa County, Napa County, going to continue to serve
- 14 Solano County. So it's not a new idea here about this
- 15 being a regional landfill.
- And I think I made the comments at the Fairfield
- 17 meeting that I believe one of the points that the Board
- 18 should be looking at here is landfill capacity for the
- 19 future in the Bay Area. We're running low on it. And
- 20 that's why Sonoma County and Mendocino County come to us
- 21 is that their landfills are closed. So they're probably
- 22 doing all they can under their AB 939 program to try to
- 23 recycle as much as possible so they don't have to send it
- 24 to us, because it's costly to them.
- I don't think we're the big obstacle to the AB

- 1 939 compliance issues that some people make it out to be.
- 2 But we should be looking at future capacities and acting
- 3 accordingly.
- 4 Regarding the asthma situation, I'm sorry to hear
- 5 that. That was a terrible incident. Asthma is a problem
- 6 in Solano County, but I don't think you can attribute it
- 7 to our landfill. If you look at the traffic or the wind
- 8 patterns in Solano County, Travis Air Force Base gives you
- 9 an excellent indication of which way the wind blows. It's
- 10 a diagonal path. And basically winds from the landfill
- 11 are going away from the people. It's going more towards
- 12 Travis' back country area rather than the people who live
- 13 to the south -- to the north and the west. So I don't
- 14 think it's a fair comparison to bring up the asthma
- 15 situation, even though that was a horrible incident for
- 16 that family.
- 17 We do try to take all precautions we can on dust
- 18 control and follow those procedures.
- 19 With respect to litter, last week -- well, let me
- 20 back up one more sentence. Rains are starting to fall,
- 21 and the grass is starting to grow. And it's time to bring
- 22 the cows to Ms. Guidotti's property. Annually, we call
- 23 her up, write a letter and ask could we have the authority
- 24 from her to come out and pick up litter on her property.
- 25 And in previous years, we've done that. The last time

- 1 we've done that was a year ago. She allowed us to come
- 2 out and pick up litter. So when somebody goes out there
- 3 and counts the number of pieces of litter on the property,
- 4 you're seeing a year's accumulation. So if you're
- 5 counting 60 pieces, 200 pieces of litter in an area, yet
- 6 we have put in -- I didn't total up the numbers, but it
- 7 must be five or 600,000 tons of waste went in next door to
- 8 this property, I think we've got a fairly good control
- 9 program already.
- 10 Now, Kevin has mentioned we need to control the
- 11 trucks coming in better. And that could be done through
- 12 education and through an enforcement of our own. We've
- 13 already capped over the top of the recycling area with a
- 14 netting. I think you've been out there to see that. That
- 15 was a problem two or three years ago when we first opened
- 16 that up. We thought a tennis court fence would probably
- 17 work, but the paper over flew that. We've now have caged
- 18 that in. So that shouldn't be a source of litter in the
- 19 future.
- The most recent exposure we've had to litter
- 21 between the violation we got in November and the apparent
- 22 violation in October versus November is that during that
- 23 30-day period, the winds were blowing north to south. And
- 24 it wouldn't be likely that you would get litter coming
- 25 from the landfill blowing onto Ms. Guidotti's property.

- 1 From the hall road in, maybe that's a possibility and we
- 2 need to connect that better.
- 3 We have now completed our newest cell. It gets
- 4 us down low into the ground where we're placing the waste.
- 5 And we should go through this next season with less
- 6 exposure to winds.
- 7 That brings this last statement I'd like to make,
- 8 and that is on the 24-hour operation, actually if you look
- 9 at the weather chart, the winds drop off at sundown out in
- 10 our area. And we have less winds on most days at
- 11 nighttime. So if we get more waste delivered in the
- 12 evening periods, we've got less wind to contend with.
- 13 Now, there's exceptions when the wind blows all day and
- 14 all night. But on the usual basis, we think the 24-hour
- 15 operation will solve several things. It's going to be a
- 16 better litter control situation and a much better traffic
- 17 situation.
- 18 I believe that responds to a lot of the concerns.
- 19 We are trying to control the litter at the source. You'll
- 20 notice there is a new provision in the requirement about
- 21 as we're pushing the waste down to the area to be filled,
- 22 we have to have a wind shield on the wind side and litter
- 23 control fences on the down wind side.
- 24 And these are just like this. Wind is blowing
- 25 this way. We have a block here. Here's the pathway. And

- 1 here's the litter control fence. And this whole thing is
- 2 only like 100 feet wide. It's not half a mile wide.
- 3 So I agree with June that source control on
- 4 litter is the place to start. And that's our intent. If
- 5 you have any questions --
- 6 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you.
- 7 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: The only question I
- 8 have, is there a transfer station in the area at all where
- 9 public can be directed to a transfer station instead of
- 10 driving up to the landfill with all their uncovered loads?
- MR. BUTCH: No. We have to drive from Fairfield
- 12 over to Napa. It's about 15 miles away. They go to
- 13 Martinez area, which is 20 something -- no. There's no
- 14 transfer station nearby.
- 15 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Okay.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Any other questions, Board
- 17 Member Peace, for staff?
- 18 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I have some questions
- 19 for staff.
- 20 So they're going basically from 21 hours a day to
- 21 24 hours a day. The effect on the marsh wildlife, is that
- 22 considered in the EIR, or is that something that's going
- 23 to be considered at the BCDC?
- 24 BRANCH MANAGER DE BIE: The increase in hours was
- 25 part of the project that was analyzed in the EIR.

- 1 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: And they analyzed
- 2 effects on wildlife and stuff? Or is that something
- 3 that's done at like BCDC?
- 4 BRANCH MANAGER DE BIE: There's an obligation to
- 5 review all the potential impacts to the environment
- 6 including wildlife.
- 7 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Also in their current
- 8 permit, they are limited to 250 tons a day of sludge. But
- 9 in the new permit, there's no limit on how much sludge
- 10 they can take?
- 11 BRANCH MANAGER DE BIE: There is a requirement on
- 12 how much wet sludge can be received. I believe -- I'm
- 13 going to ask staff to correct me if I go sideways here.
- 14 But I believe part of that is responsive to a requirement
- 15 from the Regional Board in terms of having very wet waste
- 16 received and being able to handle that at the disposal
- 17 area. So that's associated with that.
- 18 The other sludge that's less wet is already being
- 19 received and handled. And some of that is utilized for
- 20 cover. So I believe what's happening with this permit
- 21 relative to the 250 tons of wet sludge that we're
- 22 recognizing this further limitation on one particular type
- 23 of sludge being received at the site. I don't think I
- 24 answered it.
- 25 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: So you said there is a

- 1 limit in there, even though it doesn't say on our papers
- 2 here. It says that the current one is 250 tons per day of
- 3 sludge. And in the proposed it doesn't have anything.
- 4 Maybe it just wasn't carried forward from the permit. I
- 5 was just wondering.
- 6 BRANCH MANAGER DE BIE: On the face of the permit
- 7 it indicates sludge maximum 250 tons for disposal if it
- 8 exceeds 50 percent moisture. That's what I was referring
- 9 to, there is a limit on how much wet sludge.
- 10 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: It really hasn't
- 11 changed?
- 12 BRANCH MANAGER DE BIE: No. We're clarifying
- 13 this.
- 14 Larry, can --
- 15 MS. GUIDOTTI: After Larry speaks, could I please
- 16 have a moment?
- BOARD MEMBER BROWN: She's the Chair.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Let's go through our questions
- 19 first, because we've had quite an extensive public comment
- 20 period. So we really would like to get the questions from
- 21 the Committee members and other Board members on the
- 22 record. Thank you.
- 23 MR. BURCH: With respect to the sludge, under the
- 24 Regional Board waste discharge requirements, we can have a
- 25 ratio of five to one; five parts garbage, one part sludge.

- 1 And we can receive sludge as wet as 85 percent moisture.
- 2 What was the old language in the current permit
- 3 we live under, solid waste permit, it says we can receive
- 4 250 tons per day of sludge. And we wanted to have that
- 5 separated out the ADC. So we've asked the LEA to look at
- 6 if we bring in sludge for ADC, it may be dried sludge from
- 7 lagoons, which is less than 50 percent moisture. If
- 8 that's going to be buried and not used as ADC, that
- 9 counts. That is going to be counted under the 3400 tons
- 10 per day buried. If it's used as ADC, it doesn't fall
- 11 under that limit. But it's going to be counted as a
- 12 vehicle coming in. If we use the sludge that comes off of
- 13 centrifuge and other drying methods, maybe have 15 percent
- 14 solids, 85 percent water, that can be used as ADC. Would
- 15 not be counted as a disposal. But it would be counted as
- 16 the truck's coming in. If you notice that line, it says
- 17 maximum 250 tons per day for disposal if it exceeds
- 18 50 percent moisture.
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: So have you gotten your
- 20 permit from the Water Board for this permit revision?
- MR. BURCH: No. That's our permit since 1980.
- 22 1993, it said 250 tons.
- 23 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: You don't have to get
- 24 any revision to your Water Board permit?
- MR. BURCH: They've already been on record and

- 1 staff contacts with your agency in fact that the Regional
- 2 Board is not governing the hours per day, nor the tons
- 3 being disposed of. When we talk about going into the
- 4 Phase 2 operation on different territory, yes, we'd have
- 5 to get waste discharge requirements revised for that.
- 6 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Now correct me if I'm
- 7 wrong, but didn't I see a letter from the Regional Water
- 8 Board saying that the leachate collection system wasn't
- 9 working and that they couldn't even monitor sumps like 3
- 10 and 4 because they couldn't access them? What's that all
- 11 about?
- 12 MR. BURCH: In the older part of the landfill, we
- 13 have sumps that are out in the bottom of the landfill and
- 14 we have the vertical riser pumps that came to the surface
- 15 that you could run a tape measure down and see if there's
- 16 water that's above the approved limit in that sump. And
- 17 as the landfill got taller, those pipes shifted. We
- 18 redrilled them, reestablished it. And that's just part of
- 19 our normal notification to them, that whoops, those have
- 20 shifted again. We have not found problems in the past,
- 21 just that the monitoring devices failed. So we go back
- 22 and re-drill them and install them. So they're reacting
- 23 back to a quarterly report we made to them saying it's
- 24 time to relook at the replacement of those probes. So
- 25 they're putting us on a notice. They want to see what our

- 1 program is for the replacement and have part of the
- 2 discussion before we go in and re-drill those. That's
- 3 what that was all about.
- 4 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I understand you said
- 5 you only get about 700 vehicles a day now to the landfill.
- 6 So really you can go up 300 vehicles more.
- 7 MR. BURCH: On an average basis.
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: If you take out the
- 9 recycles and the alternative daily cover and all those
- 10 things, you could really see then your traffic bump up;
- 11 correct?
- MR. BURCH: Not bump up above 1,000.
- COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Not 1,000, but it could
- 14 bump up from 700 to 1,000.
- 15 MR. BURCH: Oh, even if you left it as it is
- 16 right now with 34 tons per day counts everything, then
- 17 we're still going to see that increase go up as we get
- 18 closer to 3400 tons per day. Right now, I think we're
- 19 averaging 2900 to 3100 tons per day. We have another 300
- 20 tons a day or so left in our current permit when you count
- 21 everything. There's that other 300 vehicles per day would
- 22 be delivering those other wastes.
- 23 It's kind of an algebra problem here. We've got
- 24 3400 tons per day would be delivered. That's a maximum
- 25 for disposal in the landfill. If that's brought in in

- 1 transfer trucks and every one of those was 20 tons each,
- 2 what's that, 170 trucks? Did I do my -- 170 vehicles.
- 3 Well, we have a lot of self-haul. So there's two or 300
- 4 self-hauls coming in. The likelihood that -- I'm going at
- 5 here to fully dispose 3400 tons per day in what we see the
- 6 market that's coming to us looks like it's going to be
- 7 about 600 vehicles, 700 vehicles per day, like it is
- 8 today. And that the amount of recycling we can do out
- 9 there as far as composting and concrete crushing is really
- 10 governed by the distance somebody can drive to us. And we
- 11 think there's less distance. So it's really going to be a
- 12 smaller quantity of maybe three or 400 tons per day being
- 13 delivered for recycling. If we had ten tons per truck,
- 14 we're talking about 40. So there's a lot of room left in
- 15 this 1,000 tons per day capacity without it ever being
- 16 needed to exceed it.
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: And a thousand vehicles
- 18 a day --
- MR. BURCH: A thousand vehicles a day.
- 20 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: -- is what is accounted
- 21 for in the environment EIR.
- MR. BURCH: Definitely. There's a table in there
- 23 that splits it out between disposal and recycling
- 24 currently. And then there's forecast as to how this would
- 25 change in the future.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Any more questions? Any other
- 2 questions from any Board members?
- 3 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: The last question I have
- 4 is what about the closure/postclosure? Did you say you
- 5 were still working on that? Have we determined the
- 6 preliminary closure/postclosure? You already took care of
- 7 that?
- 8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Yes, Member Peace. We
- 9 have determined that those plans are adequate and can make
- 10 that finding.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: June, I'll give you one
- 12 minute, and then we want to wrap this up. We do have
- 13 another meeting that was scheduled for 11:00 a.m., just so
- 14 you know.
- 15 MS. GUIDOTTI: Thank you so much. I just want to
- 16 rebuttal what Larry said that the litter has been there
- 17 since April or whenever he's saying. If you look at what
- 18 I requested from you, from the LEA, Matt Weinburke
- 19 documented ten pieces of litter on my property when we
- 20 went to court in October. After that, I think from what I
- 21 understand they moved him to Hay Road Landfill because he
- 22 did get a violation on the odor coming off. And Ricardo's
- 23 done it, and I think they've gotten zero. The litter
- 24 that's there since we went to court in October is
- 25 brand-new litter.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you.
- 2 MS. GUIDOTTI: One more thing is the wind.
- 3 That's okay. I got Thursday. Thank you.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you very much.
- 5 Any other questions? Do I have a motion?
- 6 I'll move Resolution 2006-216. Do I have a
- 7 second? I don't have a second, so we will move this item
- 8 to the full Board on Thursday.
- 9 BRANCH MANAGER DE BIE: Madam Chair, if I may,
- 10 Mark de Bie again.
- I think there's a very good possibility that the
- 12 agenda item will be revised to some extent to include the
- 13 findings, if anything. Relative to the questions that
- 14 June had and others have, we'll work with you, Madam
- 15 Chair, on how you might want to have that information
- 16 available for the Board meeting.
- 17 But I just want to let people know that are there
- 18 that there will more than likely be a revised agenda item
- 19 posted by staff prior to the Board meeting that at a
- 20 minimum will include the findings that we provided orally
- 21 today.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. Very good.
- 23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVENSON: And Madam Chair, I'm
- 24 sorry to interrupt, but tagging onto Mark, just given
- 25 everything else that is going on this week, we will do our

- 1 best to address the questions in here. But we may not
- 2 have something in writing available until the morning of
- 3 the Board meeting. So it's just another heads-up to folks
- 4 in the audience.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Right. Just so everyone
- 6 understands, we do have a quick turn around this week. We
- 7 have our Committee meetings today and tomorrow, and we do
- 8 have our full Board meeting scheduled for this Thursday as
- 9 opposed to the following Tuesday. So we've got a very,
- 10 very short amount of time to answer all the questions that
- 11 were raised today. So please bear with us. The
- 12 information may not be available until the morning of the
- 13 full Board meeting. So I just hope everyone can
- 14 understand. Even burning the midnight oil, this is going
- 15 to be a tough turn-around.
- 16 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Can I ask one more
- 17 question of the operator? Since you said there is no
- 18 transfer station nearby, have you ever considered raising
- 19 the tipping fees that you have and putting that money
- 20 towards maybe developing a transfer station where all the
- 21 public hauling could go so it wouldn't have to go clear up
- 22 to the face of the landfill?
- MR. BURCH: I guess in all candor here, yes, that
- 24 has been discussed within the company. I'm not sure
- 25 locally with the other decision-makers like City of

- 1 Fairfield, City of Suisun. But one of the aspects is as
- 2 we bring the recycling trucks out to the landfill to
- 3 unload and then be reloaded, if we were to develop another
- 4 building someplace else and in an industrial area and
- 5 those trucks went into that building and unloaded, and
- 6 then the transfer truck that came from the landfill empty
- 7 would go to that spot, be reloaded, and goes off to our
- 8 recycling center in Richmond, that's been discussed as a
- 9 possibility. If you would couple with that the self-haul
- 10 if they would go and unload in there at that same
- 11 location, then that would reduce the number of self-haul
- 12 vehicles coming out to landfill and the recycling trucks
- 13 coming out to landfill?
- 14 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: It seems like it could
- 15 reduce the litter, reduce the amount of traffic. And also
- 16 with the tipping fee increase, maybe discourage so much of
- 17 the out of county.
- 18 MR. BURCH: It is a subject that has been
- 19 discussed. And on the other counter side of it, you need
- 20 a facility someplace in the local area. So that means a
- 21 use permit through the city of Fairfield or Solano --
- 22 pardon me. City of Suisun. I guess conceivably it could
- 23 be in the county area. And again, you might view it as a
- 24 recycling center, but it's going to be looked at as not a
- 25 real popular land use zone. So maybe a tough facility to

- 1 site is where I'm getting to. So it's an excellent idea.
- 2 We're still looking at it.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: And Elliot, could you just
- 4 briefly go over how we will conduct the vote on Thursday
- 5 given the fact that we have five Board members and what
- 6 constitutes concurrence? Very briefly. Thank you.
- 7 STAFF COUNSEL BLOCK: Certainly.
- 8 As was mentioned, we'll have five Board members.
- 9 Pursuant to the statutes that govern the Board, it
- 10 actually takes four Board members out of the six positions
- 11 to constitute a quorum. And all affirmative actions of
- 12 the Board take four votes. So with five Board members on
- 13 Thursday, normal process is it takes four votes to pass
- 14 anything. For permits, however, statutes provide that in
- 15 that case it would take four votes for the Board to object
- 16 to the proposed permit. So if there are not four votes to
- 17 object to the permit, it would be deemed approved.
- 18 Obviously, if there are four votes in favor of the permit,
- 19 obviously it would be approved at that point in time as
- 20 well.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you. Okay. Without any
- 22 other comment, this meeting is adjourned. Thank you, all.
- 23 (Thereupon the California Integrated Waste
- 24 Management Board, Board of Administration
- 25 Permitting and Enforcement Committee

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              adjourned at 12:20 p.m.)
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1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
2	I, TIFFANY C. KRAFT, a Certified Shorthand
3	Reporter of the State of California, and Registered
4	Professional Reporter, do hereby certify:
5	That I am a disinterested person herein; that the
6	foregoing hearing was reported in shorthand by me,
7	Tiffany C. Kraft, a Certified Shorthand Reporter of the
8	State of California, and thereafter transcribed into
9	typewriting.
10	I further certify that I am not of counsel or
11	attorney for any of the parties to said hearing nor in any
12	way interested in the outcome of said hearing.
13	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
14	this 18th day of December, 2006.
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